

X
CHESTER COMBINED

Urban Districts of
Hoylake, Neston and Wirral

REPORT

OF

The Medical Officer of Health

DONALD R. MORRIS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.



For the Year 1968

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<i>Pages</i>
INTRODUCTION	4
HOYLAKE URBAN DISTRICT	5 — 37
NESTON URBAN DISTRICT	38 — 65
WIRRAL URBAN DISTRICT	66 — 99

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J. P. C. Davies

INTRODUCTION

To the Chairmen and Members of the District Councils.

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of Hoylake, Neston and Wirral Urban Districts for the year 1968.

The vital statistics of each district appear separately and can be compared with the Country as a whole.

The year from the statistical point of view has been one of inter-regnum. All figures show a close proximity to those of last year leaving little to warrant comment. Birth rates for Neston and Wirral continue above the National average; those for the former being 24.6 per 1,000 compared with England and Wales which is 16.9. The rate for Hoylake continues below the National figure being 13.9. It is anticipated there will be a rise in Hoylake's figure when the Main Drainage Scheme is implemented. There will be a consequent stimulus to house building as sewerage facilities become available.

Approval having been agreed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government to the Main Drainage Scheme whereby commuted sewage is to be discharged three miles out in Liverpool Bay, the North Wirral Joint Authorities have appointed a Consultant Marine Biologist as an advisor to them and to look after their interests with particular reference to any adverse effect on marine life especially shellfish which might arise as a result of the outfall.

Water Reports have been satisfactory and complaints of discolouration arising from time to time throughout the Division have been promptly dealt with by the Wirral Water Board.

A joint meeting of Medical Officers of Health of the constituent Authorities supplied by Wirral Water Board was held at the Board headquarters during the year to consider whether appropriate qualified medical advice is being given to them, particularly with reference to the prevention of pollution of water from the River Dee. It was concluded that the existing informal arrangement of ad hoc meetings of District Medical Officers of Health when required was satisfactory and that direct approach be made to an individual Medical Officer of Health if a problem arose in his area of jurisdiction. A discussion was held at that meeting on the level of lead in drinking water at distribution points throughout the system. Subsequent analysis showed that Deeside does not have a significant level of lead in its supply.

A circular was received during the year from the Minister of the Department of Health and Social Security in which he offered to indemnify Authorities against legal action arising from fluoridating their water supplies. Brisk discussion in the District Health Committees failed, once again, to get Hoylake and Wirral Councils to change their attitude which is against the addition of fluoride to drinking water.

I would like to thank the Public Health Inspectors and staff of the respective health departments for their valuable help and assistance throughout the year.

DONALD R. MORRIS

Medical Officer of Health

HOYLAKE URBAN DISTRICT

The Urban District was constituted in 1889; and on 1st April, 1933, the Parishes of Caldby, Frankby, Greasby, Grange and part of Saughall Massie were added.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (acres)	5,933
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population (mid-1968)	32,320
Number of inhabited houses	11,232
Rateable Value	£1,323,893
Sum represented by a penny rate	£5,320

The area is mainly agricultural and residential in character. A few small industries including brickmaking, laundries, sheet metal works, pre-cast concrete and an artificial tooth factory have been established. Little inshore fishing is carried out now.

The natural increase of a population is the excess of births over deaths. The following table shows the condition 1959—1968 in Hoylake :—

Year	Population	Natural Increase per 1,000 of Population.
1959	30,360	51 more births than deaths +1.6
1960	30,900	74 more births than deaths +2.3
1961	32,000	40 more births than deaths +1.2
1962	32,220	84 more births than deaths +2.6
1963	32,280	52 more births than deaths +1.6
1964	32,630	98 more births than deaths +3.0
1965	32,650	26 more deaths than births —0.7
1966	32,580	27 more deaths than births —0.8
1967	32,400	3 more births than deaths +0.09
1968	32,320	23 more deaths than births —0.7

Extracts from vital statistics for the year 1968

These statistics are calculated on a population of 32,320, the estimate furnished by the Registrar-General.

Live Births.					Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	....	....	....	....	388	193	195
Illegitimate	....	....	....	....	21	9	12
Totals	....	....	....	....	409	202	207

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population 12.7

Birth Rate standardised for comparison with England and Wales 13.9

Birth Rate for England and Wales 16.9

Illegitimate Live Births per cent. of total live births 5.1

Stillbirths.					Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	....	....	....	....	9	7	2
Illegitimate	....	....	....	....	1	—	1
Totals	....	....	....	....	10	7	3

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 24.0

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births for
England and Wales 14.3

Total Live and Still Births 419

Infants Deaths (deaths under 1 year)

					Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	....	....	....	....	1	—	1
Illegitimate	....	....	....	....	—	—	—
Totals	....	....	....	....	1	—	1
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	....	....	....	....	2.4		
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births				....	2.5		
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births				....	—	
Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales	....	....	....	....	18.3		
Neo-natal Mortality Rate		....	....	....	2.0		
Early neo-natal Mortality Rate	....	....	....	....	2.0		
Perinatal Mortality Rate	....	....	....	....	26.0		

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of deaths	....	....	....	....	....	....	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births				....	....	....	—

Deaths.

Deaths.	Total	Males	Females
	432	213	219
Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	13.4
Death Rate standardised for comparison with England and Wales	11.2
Death Rate for England and Wales	11.9
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	68
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	Nil

Number of Deaths during Years 1959—1968		
Year	Number	Rate per 1,000 per annum.
1959	422	13.8
1960	416	13.4
1961	463	14.4
1962	433	13.4
1963	438	13.5
1964	418	12.8
1965	465	14.2
1966	448	13.7
1967	438	13.5
1968	432	13.4

Deaths at Various Ages During 1968	
Age	Number of Deaths
Under 4 weeks	1
Under 1 year	—
1 year and under 5	2
5 years and under 15	1
15 years and under 25	3
25 years and under 35	3
35 years and under 45	5
45 years and under 55	15
55 years and under 65	56
65 years and under 75	118
75 years and over	228
.....	
Total	432

Table of Infantile Mortality, 1959—1968

Death rate of infants under 1 year of age (per 1,000 live births):—

Year	Hoylake	England and Wales
1959	25.3	22.0
1960	18.3	21.7
1961	25.8	21.4
1962	19.3	21.4
1963	27.8	20.9
1964	19.3	20.0
1965	13.6	19.0
1966	9.5	18.9
1967	9.0	18.3
1968	2.0	18.3

Infantile Deaths.

The causes of death of children under the age of one year are shown below.

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Congenital Malformations ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Total ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

Causes of Death

The table below was compiled from figures supplied by the Registrar-General, and the classification is given according to the cause of death.

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Total
1. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	—	1
2. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	—	1
3. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	1	3	4
4. Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	13	2	15
5. Malignant Neoplasm, breast	—	5	5
6. Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	—	2	2
7. Leukaemia	2	—	2
8. Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc.	22	18	40
9. Benign and unspecified Neoplasms	—	—	—
10. Diabetes Mellitus	2	3	5
11. Other Endocrine etc. diseases	1	1	2
12. Anaemias	1	2	3
13. Mental disorders	—	1	1
14. Other diseases of nervous system etc.	1	2	3
15. Chronic Rheumatic heart disease	2	7	9
16. Hypertensive disease....	2	5	7
17. Ischaemic heart disease	72	60	132
18. Other forms of heart disease	10	7	17
19. Cerebrovascular disease	23	34	57
20. Other diseases of circulatory system	8	11	19
21. Influenza	1	—	1
22. Pneumonia	15	27	42
23. Bronchitis and Emphysema	23	7	30
24. Asthma	1	1	2
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	—	1
26. Peptic Ulcer	1	2	3
27. Intestinal obstruction and Hernia	—	1	1
28. Cirrhosis of Liver	1	1	2
29. Other diseases of digestive system	3	3	6
30. Nephritis and Nephrosis	—	1	1
31. Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	—	1
32. Other diseases, genito-urinary system	1	3	4
33. Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	1	2	3
34. Congenital anomalies	—	1	1
35. Other causes of perinatal mortality....	—	—	—
36. Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	—	—	—
37. Motor vehicle accidents	1	2	3
38. All other accidents	1	4	5
39. Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	—	1	1
TOTALS	213	219	432

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1968 AND PREVIOUS YEARS

Year	Population Estimated Mid-Year	LIVE BIRTHS				DEATHS							Natural Increase (Excess of Births over Deaths)			
		Number	Rate	Standardised Rate for Comparison with England & Wales	Rate England & Wales	Total Number Registered in District	Transferable		Under 1 year			At all ages				
							Of Non-Residents Registered in District	Of Residents Not Registered in District	Number	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Rate England & Wales	Number		Rate	Standardised Rate for comparison with England & Wales	Rate England & Wales
1959	30,360	473	15.5	16.1	16.5	297	52	177	12	25.3	22.0	422	13.8	12.0	11.6	+51
1960	30,900	490	15.8	16.4	17.1	263	27	180	9	18.3	21.7	416	13.4	11.6	11.5	+74
1961	32,000	503	15.7	16.0	17.4	271	37	229	13	25.8	21.4	463	14.4	12.9	12.0	+40
1962	32,220	517	16.0	16.3	18.0	271	38	200	10	19.3	21.4	433	13.4	12.1	11.9	+84
1963	32,280	490	15.1	16.6	18.2	237	34	235	11	22.4	20.9	438	13.5	11.6	12.2	+52
1964	32,630	516	15.8	17.3	18.4	237	32	213	10	19.3	20.0	418	12.8	11.0	11.3	+98
1965	32,650	439	13.4	14.7	18.0	292	33	206	6	13.6	19.0	465	14.2	11.9	11.5	—26
1966	32,580	421	12.9	14.1	17.7	258	36	226	4	9.5	18.9	448	13.7	11.5	11.7	—27
1967	32,400	441	13.6	14.9	17.2	250	27	215	4	9.0	18.3	438	13.5	11.0	11.2	+ 3
1968	32,320	409	12.7	13.9	16.9	234	34	232	1	2.4	18.3	432	13.4	11.2	11.9	—23

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Public Health Officers

Details are given on page 3.

Laboratory Facilities

Investigations of a Public Health nature are undertaken by the Chester and Liverpool branches of the Public Health Laboratory Service.

Food and drugs throughout the district are submitted for analysis to the Cheshire County Laboratory. The samples are taken by County Officers.

Ambulance Facilities.

The Cheshire County Council is the ambulance authority for this area.

The ambulance service is under Radio Control and is operated from County Hall, Chester. Telephone No. : 21 26561.

Home Nursing

This service is regulated by the Cheshire County Council and five District Nurses are employed by them in this area. The Hoylake and West Kirby District Nursing Association works independently. The Association provides two trained nurses for work about the district, and subscriptions from charitable persons and small charges for services rendered serve to support the organisation.

Treatment Centres and Clinics

The following clinics are provided by the Cheshire County Council :—

Child Welfare.

Place	Each Month	Time.
Hoylake—"Broomfield" Clinic Centre, Meols Drive	Every Thursday	2-0 p.m.
West Kirby—Parish Hall, West- bourne Road	Every Friday	2-0 p.m.
Greasby—Greasby Road	Every Tuesday	2-0 p.m.
Newton—Village Hall	2nd and 4th Wednesday	2-0 p.m.

Ante-Natal.

This Clinic is provided by the Cheshire County Council in conjunction with the Central Wirral Hospital Management Committee and is held at :

Hoylake—"Broomfield" Clinic Centre, Meols Drive	Every Tuesday	9.0 a.m.
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Greasby—Clinic Centre, Greasby Road	Alternate Tuesdays	9.0 a.m.
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The County Health Visitors and Midwives are in attendance.

Classes for Relaxation Exercises are conducted by the County Physiotherapist every Wednesday at 2-0 p.m.

School Clinic.

Hoylake—"Broomfield" Clinic Centre, Meols Drive	Every Friday	9-00 a.m.
(School Medical Officer attends every Friday at 9-00 a.m.)		

Greasby—Clinic Centre, Greasby Road	2nd and 4th Wednesday	9.00 a.m.
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Dental Treatment.

Hoylake—"Broomfield" Clinic Centre, Meols Drive	Every Monday	9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.
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Hearing Clinic.

Hoylake—"Broomfield" Clinic Centre, Meols Drive	1st, 3rd and 5th Monday	2.0 p.m.
Greasby—Clinic Centre, Greasby Road	1st Monday	....	2.0 p.m.

B.G.G. Vaccination Clinic.

Hoylake—"Broomfield" Clinic Centre, Meols Drive	Last Thursday in month	9.0 a.m.
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Young Children's Clinic.

Hoylake—"Broomfield" Clinic Centre, Meols Drive	1st Friday in month	9.0 a.m.
Greasby—Clinic Centre, Greasby Road	2nd and 4th Wednesday	....	9.0 a.m.

The following specialist clinics are provided for patients residing in the Hoylake Urban District :—

Ophthalmic.

Place	Each Month	Time
Hoylake—"Broomfield" Clinic Centre, Meols Drive	2nd and 4th Mondays	9-0 a.m.
Greasby—Clinic Centre, Greasby Road	1st Thursday	2.0 p.m.

Speech Therapy.

Hoylake—"Broomfield" Clinic Centre, Meols Drive	Every Thursday	9.0 a.m.
Greasby—Clinic Centre, Greasby Road	Every Tuesday	9.0 a.m. to 12.00

Paediatric.

Greasby—Clinic Centre, Greasby Road	2nd Thursday	2.0 p.m.
Geriatric Follow-up Clinics Hoylake "Broomfield" Clinic Centre, Meols Drive	1st Tuesday	2.30 p.m.

Cervical Cytology Clinics

Hoylake "Broomfield" Clinic

Centre, Meols Drive Wednesday By appointment

Greasby—Clinic

Centre, Greasby Road Monday By appointment

Orthopaedic.

Hoylake Cottage Hospital

.... 1st and 3rd

9-30 a.m.

Saturdays

to 12-30 p.m.

1st and 3rd

9.00 a.m.

Wednesdays

to 12-30 p.m.

Tuberculosis.

Wallasey—Mill Lane Hospital

Every Monday 9 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. adults.

2 p.m. to 5 p.m. adults and
children.

Every Tuesday 9 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. children

Every Wednesday 9 a.m.—12-30 p.m. adults

6 p.m.—8 p.m. adults

Every Thursday 9 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. adults.

Every Friday 9 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. adults.

Hoylake—Hoylake Cottage Hospital.

Every Monday 2-30 p.m.

Venereal Disease

St. James Hospital, Every Monday 2-00 to 6.00 p.m. Male and Female.

Tollemache Road,

Birkenhead.

Every Wednesday 10-0 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. Male

(Clinic Annexe)

and Female.

Every Friday 2-00 to 6-00 p.m. Male and Female

Hospitals

The hospitals of the district, both voluntary and public, are under the control of the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board. Hoylake is in the area of the North Wirral Hospital Management Committee which administers the Hoylake and West Kirby Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital and Caldby Manor Hospital. The Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital has an authorized bed complement of 38. It is staffed by the practitioners of the district and by visiting consultants. It is equipped for major surgical work and has a modern X-ray department.

Caldby Manor Hospital is specialized for the treatment of heart and circulatory conditions. 41 beds are provided there, and there is a visiting medical and consultant staff.

Other hospitals and institutions under the Board's management are available to local residents. The hospitals at Clatterbridge still admit a large number of patients from this area and others go to the hospitals of Liverpool and Birkenhead.

The Smallpox Hospital for the treatment of cases of this disease is situated at Warrington.

The Children's Convalescent Home, West Kirby, which has not been included in the Regional Hospital Scheme, provides a number of beds for the emergency treatment of sick children from this locality. This institution has excellent equipment and is staffed by visiting Practitioners and Consultants.

National Assistance Act, 1948

This Act gives power to Local Sanitary Authorities to arrange for removal to hospital under a Justice's order aged and infirm persons who are not able to look after themselves and who are not receiving proper care and attention.

The County Welfare Department has become increasingly involved in these cases and has a special organisation to deal with them. Nevertheless, the local district authority have a part to play. Every effort is made to deal with such cases sympathetically and informally, without recourse to legal enforcement. Three cases requiring hospital treatment during the year were dealt with informally.

Efforts on behalf of old people have been made by local voluntary organizations, and the meals on wheels service has continued at both Hoylake and West Kirby under the Women's Voluntary Service.

Mortuaries

Owing to the increasing difficulty and expense of providing staff for intermittent duties at the Public Mortuary in Carr Lane, alternative arrangements were made whereby the service is now provided at Clatterbridge Hospital with the agreement of the Central Wirral Hospital Committee.

The redundant land and buildings in Carr Lane have been adapted to other use and rented for business purposes.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water

The former water authorities supplying Wirral are now merged into the Wirral Water Board which took over the Hoylake Urban District Council pumping station and reservoir at Newton and Grange and other distribution systems as from the 1st October, 1963. The sources of supply of the new board are the various wells and bore holes of the constituent authorities at Grange, Newton, Mouldsworth, Hooton, Prenton, Flaybrick, etc.; the upland surface reservoir at Alwen, Denbighshire and water derived from the River Dee at Chester which is pumped to Sutton Hall prior to distribution.

The safety of the district distribution is monitored by the submission of samples taken at monthly intervals for bacteriological examination. Seventy-three samples were submitted under this heading, but two slight deviations from the consistently high standard were found to be due to local circumstances and were promptly rectified.

11 Ball Valve Hydrants were replaced during 1968. 66 remain to be dealt with.

With the exception of a house on Hilbre Island all permanent dwellings in the district have a piped water supply. A few summer bungalows at Newton are served by two standpipes. The Children's Convalescent Home, West Kirby, has an independent supply from a bore-hole 300 feet deep at the Home, and there is also a borehole providing an adequate supply at the Deeside Laundry, West Kirby.

Particulars of the number of dwelling houses and of the population supplied from the public mains (a) direct to the house, (b) by means of standpipes, are given below:—

			Dwelling Houses	Population
(a) House direct	....	....	11,218	32,278
(b) Standpipes	....	....	14	42

Consumption

This is estimated to be in the order of 40.0 gallons per head per day.

Drainage and Sewerage

The Minister of Housing and Local Government has given his approval in principle to the construction of the North Wirral Main Drainage Scheme which will serve the Frankby and Greasby areas, and also to the construction of the Hoylake Main Drainage Scheme which will serve Meols, Hoylake, West Kirby, Newton and Caldy.

Flooding has once again occurred in various parts of the district on several occasions, heavy rain being experienced during the late summer.

Relief sewers have been constructed in Croft Drive, Croft Drive West, Wirral Mount and Montgomery Hill in an effort to obtain better distribution of flow in the various parts of the sewerage system and thus alleviate flooding.

Work has commenced on the construction of the Upper Newton Trunk Sewer which will eventually form part of the Main Drainage Scheme, while design work has started on the Grange Relief Sewer which will relieve flooding in the Ennisdale Drive area.

145 new dwellings have been connected to the sewers during the year.

Closet Accommodation

Twenty-two dwellings, including fourteen which are occupied as summer dwellings, are provided with closets other than water closets.

Open Spaces

The District has some 232.5 acres of public open space.

Public Cleansing

Refuse is collected from every dwelling house each week, and from certain other premises three times each week. A bi-weekly collection is also made from schools and public institutions.

Statistics

Number of premises from which refuse was collected	11,842
Number of bins	15,190
Weight of refuse collected per annum	9,038 tons
Average length of haul to tip	2½ miles
Net cost of collection and disposal per 1,000 premises visited (per visit)	£64
Net cost of collection and disposal per 1,000 bins collected (per collection)	£51

Salvage Collected

	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qtrs.</i>	<i>£</i>
Paper	412	19	1	3,763

A new baling machine is to be installed and it is expected that there will be a considerable increase in the quantity of paper collected and sold.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

Nature and Number of Inspections made					NOTICES SERVED		Result of Ser- vice of Notices	
					Stat- utory	In- formal	Com- plied with	Out- standing
Dwelling Houses (P.H.A.)	....	....	804		35	121	144	12
(H.A. Representations)	....	....	103		—	4	4	—
(H.A. Overcrowding and rehousing)	....	....	93		—	10	10	—
(Demolition)	....	....	123		—	3	3	—
(H.A. Certs of Disrepair)	....	....	5		—	—	—	—
(H.A. Improvement Grants)	....	....	156		—	22	20	2
Aged Persons	....	....	62		—	5	5	—
Agricultural Premises	....	....	41		—	—	—	—
Animal Boarding Establishments	....	....	6		—	—	—	—
Cesspools and Septic Tanks	....	....	28		—	2	2	—
Disinfection	....	....	10		—	—	—	—
Ditches and Watercourses	....	....	29		—	—	—	—
Drainage	....	....	646		38	26	64	—
Dustbins	....	....	10		—	2	2	—
Factories—Power	....	....	59		—	6	6	—
—Non Power	....	....	9		—	1	1	—
—Building Sites	....	....	39		—	4	4	—
Food Inspection	....	....	91		—	3	3	—
Food Premises—Bakehouses	....	....	23		—	2	2	—
Butchers	....	....	125		—	12	12	—
Dairies	....	....	70		—	—	—	—
Restaurants, Cafes and Canteens	....	....	124		—	12	11	1
Schools, Hospitals and Institutions	....	....	28		—	1	1	—
Hotels, Clubs, etc.	....	....	31		—	2	2	—
Ice Cream Premises	....	....	45		—	3	3	—
Food Distribution	....	....	54		—	6	6	—
Other Premises	....	....	215		—	11	11	—
Street Vendors and Hawkers	....	....	30		—	—	—	—
Hairdressers and Barbers	....	....	52		—	4	4	—
Hackney Carriages	....	....	75		—	2	2	—
Ice-Cream Samples	....	....	48		—	1	1	—
Infectious Disease	....	....	119		—	5	5	—
Keeping of Animals	....	....	92		—	12	12	—
Licensed Premises	....	....	61		—	10	10	—
Milk Samples	....	....	139		—	—	—	—
Noise	....	....	33		—	—	—	—
Offensive Accumulations	....	....	183		—	8	8	—
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	....	....	138		—	32	27	5
Petroleum Consolidation Act	....	....	139		—	44	44	—
Pet Shops	....	....	9		—	2	2	—
Places of Entertainment	....	....	12		—	—	—	—
Public Conveniences	....	....	33		—	—	—	—
Rat Inspections	....	....	867		—	11	11	—
Rat Inspections—Sewer Treatments	....	....	4		—	—	—	—
Refuse Collection and Disposal	....	....	—		—	3	3	—
Schools	....	....	32		—	1	1	—
Shops	....	....	89		—	3	3	—
Shops Act—Hours of Closing	....	....	133		—	—	—	—
Smoke Observations	....	....	29		—	—	—	—
Swimming Pools	....	....	30		—	—	—	—
Temporary and Movable Dwellings	....	....	45		—	2	2	—
Verminous Premises	....	....	27		—	—	—	—
Water Supply	....	....	147		—	6	6	—
Wasps Nests	....	....	158		—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	....	....	592		—	46	46	—
Total					73	450	503	20

Factories Act, 1961

Inspections

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	9	9	1	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	64	59	6	—
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	23	39	4	—
Total	96	107	11	—

Defects Found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	10	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	11	11	—	—	—

Factories Act, 1961

The only factories of any size in the area are two laundries, a brickworks, and an artificial tooth factory, but many small businesses come under the definition of factory and as such are subject to inspection. Increasing use is being made of the Council's Carr Lane Industrial Estate. During the course of its development, this estate has attracted several distributive trades and an office block, where the largest single labour force in the area is employed.

Licensed Premises

All public houses are inspected regularly and, in particular, before the annual licensing Sessions in February.

Standards of structures and hygiene are high throughout, five being built in the last ten years, another seven since 1935, and of the remaining six houses five have been extended and renovated and equipped to modern standards. In one case the standard of sanitary accommodation falls short of that generally attained, and one must await town redevelopment in order to effect improvement.

Shops Act, 1912 to 1950

Inspection of the shops under the provisions of the above Act, with the exception of those sections repealed by the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, were carried out simultaneously with inspection under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Eighty-nine separate inspections of shops other than food premises were carried out.

An Order of Suspension of closing hours of shops was made by the Council to cover the Christmas period.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Responsibility for the administration of the above Act is divided as to type of premises between H.M. Factory Inspector and the Local Authority.

Registration of premises in the Local Authority's jurisdiction has been completed and also the subsequent inspections.

The Annual Return for 1968 made to the Ministry of Labour showed the totals of registered premises in the district as follows:—Offices—105, Retail Shops—249, Wholesale Departments—4, Catering Establishments—38. Total number of persons employed 1,842—423 Males, 1,419 Females (Offices 595, Retail Shops 897, Wholesale Departments 35, Catering Establishments 298, Canteens 17).

The duty is also laid on Local Authorities to investigate accidents occurring in registered premises. Eight accidents have been reported, all being dealt with informally.

Caravan Sites

The use of land for camping sites is controlled by the Hoylake Urban District Council Act, 1935, and by the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

One application was received for the use of land as a caravan site—land known as Poplar Camp, Mill Lane, Greasby.

A licence expiring on 31st December, 1963, was issued which limits the number of caravans on the 3½ acre site to 37 and insists on adequate sanitary facilities and fire precautions.

The return of the land comprising the former R.A.F. Station to separate private ownership and its reversion to agricultural use has resulted in a marked reduction of the visits of itinerant caravan dwellers to the district. There were three occasions on which short time parking of caravans on land adjoining the highway took place.

Smoke Abatement

The Council is a member of the National Society for Clean Air, and appoints delegates to the West Lancashire and Cheshire Smoke Abatement Committee.

The whole of the area of Hoylake is located on a strip of the Wirral Peninsular, skirted on the North and West by the Irish Sea and the Dee Estuary.

Factory development is minimal, and the three main urbanised areas are separated by extensive open spaces of heath and agricultural land. This in contrast to the Easterly coastal strip on the Mersey side of the Peninsular which is highly industrialised and includes four boroughs in a designated "black" area.

Whilst measures of control of atmospheric pollution are actively pursued by the establishment of Smokeless zones, and the payment of subsidies to provide suitable means of burning solid fuel, and the like, in these areas, the only legal requirement in this district to date has been a bye law requirement in respect of grates in newly erected houses. The main effort has been by voluntary renovation and renewals by householders without State or local authority subsidy. Latterly, the Council's own housing estate of 109 houses, at present under construction, is completely gas heated.

The position has been reviewed from time to time by the Health Committee who has so far adhered to the opinion that the degree of atmospheric pollution in the district with the beneficial effect of geographical and climatic conditions, does not warrant Council imposing further measures of control on householders. For this reason, no Smoke Control Orders are in operation.

Seven notifications of the installation of high rated boilers were received,

All steam raising boilers in hospitals and laundries, etc., are oil fired and have not given any trouble this year.

A letter received from the Chairman of the North West Region of the Economic Planning Council evaluating the present position of efforts towards the goal of a smokeless North West Region, and exhorting laggard authorities to make more effort has been received, and awaits the Council's consideration in January of next year.

Alkali, etc., Works Regulation Act

No complaints regarding offensive smells from the spin-room gases at Greenfield Works on the opposite side of the River Dee were received during the year.

Swimming Baths and Pools

The Hoylake swimming pool is an enclosed pool on Hoylake Beach adjacent to the Promenade. Water which comes from the sea at high tide is subjected to a process of mesh screening, alumina ferric precipitation and mechanical filtration, the whole of the contents of the bath passing through twice daily. Continuous automatic chlorination takes place in a Wallace and Tiernan Chlorinator, installed in 1956.

Daily ortho tolidine tests are carried out by the Superintendent and at weekly intervals by this department. Samples are submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination at intervals during the season. All analyses taken during the year were quite satisfactory.

The Council, on health and economic grounds, decided to discontinue the use of the West Kirby Swimming Pool as a public swimming pool.

Eradication of Bed Bugs

Number of houses found to be infested :

(a) Council houses	....	....	....	....	....	....	Nil
(b) Other houses	....	....	....	....	....	....	2

Number of houses disinfested :

(a) Council houses	....	....	....	....	....	....	Nil
(b) Other houses	....	....	....	....	....	....	2

Hydrogen Cyanide Regulations

No notifications of treatment of houses under the above Regulations have been received.

Schools

There are two Grammar, two Secondary and nine Primary Schools under the control of the Cheshire County Council, with three Controlled C. of E. and one C. of E. outside County control. Private schools include five day schools and two boarding schools.

A new primary school was completed during the year, special drainage arrangements being necessary in view of the site being situated in an area liable to flooding during storm conditions.

Work is proceeding on increasing the accommodation at Calday Grange County Grammar School.

The overall standard of sanitation and hygiene is very high, most of the buildings being of post war construction, or subjected to large scale renovation during this period. Three of the older church schools remain with minimal alteration, and standards lower than those prevailing generally have to be accepted where the shadow of redundancy exists.

Facilities for the preparation, cooking and serving of meals are provided in all except two small private schools, and are of a good hygienic standard. All school milk supplies are Pasteurised.

HOUSING

Housing accommodation provided during 1968 is shown in the following table, which also gives comparative totals for 1967.

Description	1968			Total 1967
	Local Authority	Private Enterprise	Total	
No. of new houses erected	53	63	116	58
No. of flats provided	—	15	15	36
No. of new flats from house conversions	—	28	28	12
TOTAL	53	106	159	106

The following table indicates the progress made since the 1st August, 1945, when the Ministry of Health authorised the commencement of housing programmes :

Description	Local Authority	Private Enterprise	Total
No. of new houses erected since 1st August, 1945	732	2506	3238
No. of war damaged houses erected since 1st August 1945	—	10	10
No. of flats provided since 1st August, 1945	108	111	219
No. of flats provided by conversion since 1st August, 1945	18	556	574
Total	858	3183	4041

Demolition of Unfit Houses

Official Representations were made in respect of the following areas:—

Hoylake Number Eighteen Clearance Area comprising six houses numbered alternatively 10/20 Village Road, West Kirby.

Hoylake Number Nineteen Clearance Area comprising two houses known as East Farm Cottages, Caldy.

After consideration of reports on Individual houses considered to be unfit for habitation, the properties were dealt with as follows:—

4 Village Road, West Kirby	Undertaking to carry out works to render fit accepted.
-------------------------------	---

92 Greasby Road, Greasby.	Undertaking to cease to use for human habitation.
------------------------------	--

Medical Officer's Certificate of Unfitness in respect of a Council owned house accepted in relation to—

Lang House, Lang Lane, West Kirby.

Undertaking cancelled on completion of specified works—

15 Sea View, Hoylake.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954

No applications for revocation of Certificates have been received during the year.

RENTS ACT, 1957

One application for a Certificate of Disrepair has been received. The landlord did not give an undertaking within the prescribed period and the Certificate was duly issued by the Council.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Applications for improvement of houses reduced in number compared with last year. Standard Grants were issued in respect of nine houses for works to a total value of £850 6s. 3d. Only two Discretionary Grants were issued to a total value of £390 0s. 0d. In all cases the recipients were owner-occupiers, and it is evident that the scheme, in its present form, is unattractive to landlords.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

The supervision of conditions under which milk is produced—i.e. animal health, housing, hygiene and the like—is carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The County Council have responsibilities in connection with the prevention of sale of milk infected by certain diseases (including Tuberculosis and Brucellosis) and also in connection with anti-biotics in milk.

The processing of milk, retailed in this area, to render the milk safe, is carried out at establishments in the County Borough of Birkenhead (1), City of Liverpool (1) and in the area of the Cheshire County Council (1), and the respective Counties are responsible for the registration and licensing of such establishments and their control. Routine sampling is carried out by officers of these Authorities.

The issue of licences under the Milk Special Designation Regulations is also a function of the County Council.

Despite the sampling carried out by the above organisations, district authorities retain certain powers of sampling, and the taking of random bottle samples has been shown to have some value, although it occurs at the end of a long chain from producer to consumer.

The following is a table showing the results of sampling in this district during the year.

Designation	Number of Samples	Methylene Blue		Phos- phatase		Brucella Abortus		Turbidity	
		Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	Ring Test Positive	Ring Test Negative	Passed	Failed
Sterilised	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	18	—
Pasteurised	126	124	2	94	—	—	—	—	—
Raw T.T.	22	22	—	—	—	—	22	—	—
Totals	166	146	2	94	—	—	22	18	—

Milk Supplies—Brucella Abortus

The County Council have made a return of the work, specifically to Hoylake, which has been carried out in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 17/66.

This indicates that sampling frequencies and procedures is at the same rate as decided in 1967.

No Brucella was found in any of the 32 samples examined. There is only one local herd from which milk is distributed untreated.

	Total Submitted	Number Brucella Positive
Bulk Samples	4	—
Dealer Samples	28	—
Individual Cow Samples	—	—
TOTAL	32	—

Shellfish Regulations

There was no commercial gathering of shellfish from layings off Meols, which are under the jurisdiction of the Liverpool Port Health Authority.

The local merchant obtains supplies from Penclawydd in the Swansea Bay.

Two warnings were issued regarding the use of unsatisfactory premises for boiling of shellfish, and a new processing establishment is in course of preparation at the Council's Industrial Estate at Carr Lane.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

There are no slaughterhouses in this district. The Council are of the opinion that the existing arrangements are adequate whereby, home killed meat is obtained by butchers who require it (a) from private slaughterhouses in the districts of Ellesmere Port and St. Asaph, (b) from public abattoirs at Liverpool, Birkenhead and Chester.

Butchers shops now number 22 with 5 self-service retail premises using cutting-up rooms at the rear where meat is pre-packed prior to self-service in the main part of the premises.

The frequency of visits has been maintained throughout the year as previously and various improvements in storage, fittings and equipment have been obtained informally.

UNSOUND FOOD

45 surrender notes were issued relative to unsound food, details of which are appended. Disposal was carried out satisfactorily.

Commodity Surrendered	Quantity	Reason for Condemnation
Tins Fruit	249 tins	Blown or damaged
Tins Vegetables	76 tins	Blown or damaged
Tins Meat	29 tins	Blown or damaged
Tins Milk Pudding	15 tins	Blown or damaged
Tins Tomatoes	47 tins	Blown or damaged
Tins Milk	17 tins	Blown or damaged
Tins Soup	38 tins	Blown or damaged
Tins Fish	7 tins	Blown or damaged
Jars Jam	24 jars	Blown or damaged
Packets Cheese	4 packets	Rancid
Packets Custard Powder	9 packets	Damaged
Packets Cereal	8 packets	Damaged
Packets Biscuits	32 packets	Damaged
Flour	12 lbs.	Damaged
Beverages	17 tins	Blown or damaged
Frozen Food	£164 19s. 0d.	Defrosted
Condiments	27 bottles	Damaged
Meat	153 lbs.	Decomposition

FOOD PREMISES

Food Preparation and Retail premises in the district may be classified as follows :

Bakehouses	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	7
Butchers	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	22
Cafes	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	21
Chemists	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	13
Clubs ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	18
Confectioners	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	18
Dairies ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	7
Fishmongers	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	7
Fried Fish and Chip Saloons....			....	....	....	....	....	5
Greengrocers	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	27
Grocers	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	48
Hospitals and Institutions			....	....	....	....	....	8
Licensed Premises		....	....	....	....	....	....	18
Milk Bars	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Residential Hotels		....	....	....	....	....	....	7
School Kitchens		....	....	....	....	....	....	14
Supermarkets	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	11
Sweet Shops	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	45
Wines and Spirits		....	....	....	....	....	....	12

Premises Registered are as follows :—

For manufacture of Sausages, Potted Meats etc.	....	....	29
Bakehouses	....	....	7
Fried Fish Premises	....	....	5
Ice Cream Manufacture	....	....	3
Ice Cream Retail	....	....	104

The standard of food premises has been maintained at a high level throughout the district. Plans submitted for new buildings to be used in connection with the Food trade are checked, as a matter of routine, for compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations, and there has been close co-operation with architects and shop fitters.

18 Plans in respect of alterations of premises were submitted during the year.

The rate of inspection of such premises has been reasonably frequent, a total of 745 visits having been made for the purpose, which compares with a figure of 1,038 last year, but staff shortages made it impossible to continue at the former rate.

The number of complaints regarding foreign matter in food remained at a high level, but the fines applied by the Justices may prove effective in maintaining greater care in production and packing methods.

Several complaints were referred to the Cheshire County Council who dealt with them as indicated below:—

Sample	Analysis	Remarks
Bread	Bread containing extraneous matter	Baker cautioned
Batch	Batch cakes found to contain insects	Baker cautioned
Cakes		
Batch	Live insects in plastic bag of mini	Baker cautioned
Cakes	batch cakes	
Sugar	Extraneous matter in sugar	Manufacturer cautioned
Bread	Mildewed condition of loaf of bread	Baker fined £25
Milk	Foreign matter in bottle of milk	Dairy fined £50
Tart	Apple tart affected by mould	Fined £5
Milk	Foreign body in bottle of milk	Dairy cautioned

ICE CREAM

There are three local manufacturers of ice cream on the register, two use the Cold Mix method of preparation and the other one produces soft ice cream made from a sterilised liquid mix supplied in airtight containers.

There are 104 dealers on the register and 4 manufacturers outside the district supply them.

37 samples of ice-cream and 7 samples of water ices were submitted to the Bacteriologist and the results are tabulated below.

Ice Cream

Source of Supply	No. of Samples	Grade				F.B. Coli
		1	2	3	4	
Local	14	7	3	2	2	—
External	23	14	7	2	—	—
	37	21	10	4	2	—

Water Ices

Source of Supply	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Un-satisfactory
Local	4	4	—
External	3	3	—
	7	7	—

Particulars of non-standard samples**Hoylake Urban District**

No.	Sample	Analysis	Remarks
1	Mead	Incorrectly labelled	Seller informed
2	Pork Sausage	200 p.p.m. undeclared sulphur dioxide preservative	Sellers cautioned
3	Milk Bread	Devoid of milk solids	Seller cautioned
4	Bread containing foreign matter	Dough discoloured with iron oxide and oily matter	Bakers cautioned
5	Sugar	Dampness – become lumpy. Several pieces of icing sugar – a few very small black specks consisting of grit.	Manufacturers cautioned
6	Bread Roll containing insect	Part of an insect deeply embedded in it	Bakers cautioned
7	Milk containing foreign body	Containing a small slug.	Dairy cautioned

Adulteration

This work is undertaken by the Cheshire County Council.

List of Samples taken in the Hoylake Urban District under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, during the year ended 31st December, 1968.

Name of Sample	Number Obtained	Number adulterated or not up to recognised standard of quality
Beef Paste. Potted	1	—
Beef Suet. Shredded	1	—
Bone & Vegetables	1	—
Brandy	1	—
Brandy Flavour	1	—
Bread containing foreign matter	1	1
Bread. Milk	1	1
Bread Roll containing insect	1	1
Browning	1	—
Butter	1	—
Butter. Brandy Flavoured	1	—
Carrots. Buttered	1	—
Carrots. Strained	1	—
Cheese Spread & Shrimp	1	—
Cider	1	—
Coffee & Chicory	1	—
Coffee & Chicory Essence	1	—
Coffee. Instant	1	—
Crab Spread with Butter	1	—
Cream	2	—
Curry Powder	1	—
Fish Paste. Bloater	1	—
Flour. Plain	1	—
Flour. S.R.	2	—
Fried Rice & Chicken	1	—
Gelatine	1	—
Gin	1	—
Ginger. Ground	1	—
Health Drink. Blackcurrant	1	—
Ice Cream. Dairy	1	—
Jelly. Table. Orange	1	—
Jelly. Table. Pineapple	1	—
Jam. Raspberry	1	—
Lemon Curd	1	—
Lime & Lager	1	—
Lozenges containing Peppermint		
Oil B.P.	1	—
Margarine	1	—
Margarine (10% Butter)	1	—
Mead	1	1
Milk	99	—
Milk. Cond. Spec. F.C.	1	—
Milk containing foreign body	1	1
Milk Top	1	—
Mustard. Mild	1	—
Non-Sugar Sweetener	1	—
Orange Drink. Sparkling	1	—
Orange Squash	1	—
Ox Tongue Pâté with Wine	1	—
Paracetamol Tablets 500 mg	1	—
Perry	1	—
Pickle	1	—
Pomagne	1	—
Raising Powder	1	—
Salad Cream ...	1	—
Sausage. Pork	4	1
Soda Mint Tablets	1	—
Soy Sauce	1	—
Sugar	1	1
Sweetening Tablets....	1	—
Tomato Juice	1	—
Tomato Ketchup	1	—
Vegetables. Mixed	1	—
Vegetables. Mixed Strained	1	—
Vegetable Soup. Strained	1	—
Vodka	1	—
Whisky	1	—
Totals	169	7

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The free treatment of domestic premises for rats and mice was maintained. 323 complaints (as against 294 last year) being received. Refuse tips, waste lands and other Council owned properties received routine inspection and treatment where necessary. Private rodent control firms provide a service for agricultural holdings.

The number of actual infestations dealt with are listed below :

Dwelling Houses (incl. Council Houses)	....	323
Business Premises	....	17
Agricultural Land	....	9
Local Authority Property	...	14
	Total	363

Agriculture (Safety Health & Welfare Provisions) Act, 1956

19 visits to agriculture premises were made under the above Act.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

495 cases of notifiable diseases, other than tuberculosis, occurred during the year. Details of these are given in the table overleaf.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) for the Year 1968

Disease	Number of Cases Notified										Cases ad- mitted to Hos- pital	Deaths
	Total	At ages—Years										
		Under 1	1—3	3—5	5—10	10—15	15—25	25—45	45—65	65 & over		
Scarlet Fever 	4	—	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	
Measles 	478	18	122	169	162	3	3	1	—	1	—	
Whooping Cough....	9	—	2	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pneumonia 	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	
Paratyphoid Fever 	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
TOTALS 	495	18	125	174	167	3	3	2	—	3	—	

Tuberculosis
New Cases and Mortality during 1968

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35 years	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45 years	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 years and over	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	—

Note :

Notified before death.

Tuberculosis

	PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY			Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary TOTAL
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	
Number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at the beginning of 1968.	57	37	94	7	11	18	112
Number of cases notified under the Regulations for the first time during 1968.	—	2	2	1	—	1	3
Number of cases removed from the Register during a preceding year which have been restored to the Register during the year.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number of cases added to the Register during the year which have been brought to notice otherwise than by Notification under the Regulations.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number of cases removed from the Register during the year.	2	1	3	—	—	—	3
Number of cases remaining on the Register at 31st December, 1968.	55	38	93	8	11	19	112

NESTON URBAN DISTRICT

Neston was constituted an Urban District in 1894 and was extended on 1st April, 1933, by the inclusion of the Parish of Ness and parts of the Parishes of Burton, Puddington, Eastham, Willaston, Raby and Thornton Hough.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (acres)	8,497
Registrar-General's Estimate of Resident Population (mid-1968)	16,370
Number of inhabited houses	5,185
Rateable value	£603,268
Sum represented by a penny rate	£2,515

The area is residential and agricultural. The aforetime occupation of fishing still predominates at Parkgate. There are a number of scholastic institutions. Light industries of a type new to the district have been established.

The natural increase of a population is the excess of births over deaths. The following table shows the condition 1959—1968 in Neston :—

Year	Population	Natural Increase per 1,000 of Population
1959	11,190	76 more births than deaths +6.7
1960	11,550	74 more births than deaths +6.4
1961	12,080	103 more births than deaths +8.5
1962	12,760	103 more births than deaths +8.0
1963	13,260	100 more births than deaths +7.5
1964	13,980	190 more births than deaths +13.5
1965	14,580	165 more births than deaths +11.3
1966	15,120	197 more births than deaths +13.0
1967	15,840	164 more births than deaths +10.3
1968	16,370	168 more births than deaths +10.2

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the year 1968

These statistics are calculated on a population of 16,370, the estimate furnished by the Registrar-General.

Live Births.				Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	....	...	....	326	165	161
Illegitimate	....	....	....	9	5	4
Totals	....	....	....	335	170	165

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	....	....	20.5
Birth Rate standardised for comparison with England and Wales			24.6
Birth Rate for England and Wales	....	....	16.9
Illegitimate Live Births per cent. of total live births	....	....	2.6

Stillbirths.				Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	....	....	....	4	4	—
Illegitimate	....	....	....	—	—	—
Totals	....	....	....	4	4	—

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	....	12.0
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births for England and Wales			14.3
Total Live and Still Births	....	....	339

Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)

				Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	....	....	....	4	3	1
Illegitimate	....	....	....	—	—	—
Totals	....	....	....	4	3	1
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births						12.0
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births						12.2
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births						—
Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales						18.3
Neo-natal Mortality Rate						11.9
Early neo-natal Mortality Rate						11.9
Perinatal Mortality Rate						24.0
Maternal Mortality (including abortion)						
Number of deaths						Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births						—
Deaths				Total	Males	Females
				167	83	84
Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population						10.2
Death Rate standardised for comparison with England and Wales						12.1
Death Rate for England and Wales						11.9
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)						34
Deaths from Measles (all ages)						Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)						Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)						Nil

Number of Deaths during Years 1959—1968

Year	Number	Rate per 1,000 per annum.
1959	120	10.7
1960	129	11.1
1961	121	10.0
1962	152	11.9
1963	151	11.3
1964	127	9.0
1965	142	9.7
1966	165	10.9
1967	157	9.9
1968	167	10.2

Deaths at Various Ages During 1968

Age	Number of Deaths
Under 4 weeks	4
Under 1 year	—
1 year and under 5	1
5 years and under 15	—
15 years and under 25	3
25 years and under 35	1
35 years and under 45	5
45 years and under 55	7
55 years and under 65	29
65 years and under 75	47
75 years and over	70
Total	167

Table of Infantile Mortality, 1959—1968

Death rate of infants under 1 year of age (per 1,000 live births):—

Year	Neston	England and Wales
1959	30.6	22.0
1960	19.7	21.7
1961	17.8	21.4
1962	15.6	21.4
1963	27.8	20.9
1964	18.9	20.0
1965	13.0	19.0
1966	16.5	18.9
1967	15.5	18.3
1968	12.0	18.3

Infantile Deaths

The causes of death of children under the age of one year are shown below.

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Prematurity	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Total	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4

Causes of Death

The table below was compiled from figures supplied by the Registrar-General, and the classification is given according to the cause of death.

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Total
1. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	—	1
2. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	—	—
3. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	1	2	3
4. Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	8	3	11
5. Malignant Neoplasm, breast	—	2	2
6. Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	—	2	2
7. Leukaemia	—	—	—
8. Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc.	5	11	16
9. Benign and unspecified Neoplasms	—	1	1
10. Diabetes Mellitus	—	4	4
11. Other Endocrine etc. diseases	1	—	1
12. Anaemias	—	—	—
13. Mental disorders	—	—	—
14. Other diseases of nervous system etc.	1	—	1
15. Chronic Rheumatic heart disease	—	1	1
16. Hypertensive disease....	—	3	3
17. Ischaemic heart disease	28	15	43
18. Other forms of heart disease	1	5	6
19. Cerebrovascular disease	5	16	21
20. Other diseases of circulatory system	2	3	5
21. Influenza	—	—	—
22. Pneumonia	8	8	16
23. Bronchitis and Emphysema....	9	1	10
24. Asthma	—	—	—
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	—	—	—
26. Peptic Ulcer	—	—	—
27. Intestinal obstruction and Hernia	—	—	—
28. Cirrhosis of Liver	—	—	—
29. Other diseases of digestive system	1	1	2
30. Nephritis and Nephrosis	—	—	—
31. Hyperplasia of Prostate	—	—	—
32. Other diseases, genito-urinary system	1	1	2
33. Diseases of musculo-urinary system	1	1	2
34. Congenital anomalies	3	—	3
35. Other causes of perinatal mortality....	—	1	1
36. Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	1	—	1
37. Motor Vehicle accidents	2	—	2
38. All other accidents	2	2	4
39. Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	2	1	3
TOTALS	83	84	167

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1968 AND PREVIOUS YEARS

Year	Population Estimated Mid-Year	LIVE BIRTHS				DEATHS								Natural Increase (Excess of Births over Deaths)		
		Number	Rate	Standardised Rate for comparison with England & Wales	Rate England & Wales	Total Number Registered in District	Transferable		Under 1 year			At all ages				
							Of Non-Residents Registered in District	Of Residents Not Registered in District	Number	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Rate England & Wales	Number	Rate		Standardised Rate for Comparison with England & Wales	Rate England & Wales
1959	11,190	196	17.5	17.6	16.5	100	25	45	6	30.6	22.0	120	10.7	10.8	11.6	+76
1960	11,550	203	17.5	17.5	17.1	91	20	58	4	19.7	21.7	129	11.1	11.5	11.5	+74
1961	12,080	224	18.5	18.1	17.4	89	15	47	4	17.8	21.4	121	10.0	10.7	12.0	+103
1962	76,120	255	19.9	19.1	18.0	114	21	59	4	15.6	21.4	152	11.9	13.0	11.9	+103
1963	13,260	251	18.9	19.2	18.2	105	18	64	7	27.8	20.9	151	11.3	11.6	12.2	+100
1964	13,980	317	22.6	22.6	18.4	66	7	68	6	18.9	20.0	127	9.0	10.0	11.3	+190
1965	14,580	307	21.0	21.0	18.0	64	6	84	4	13.0	19.0	142	9.7	10.0	11.5	+165
1966	15,120	362	23.9	23.9	17.7	71	5	99	6	16.5	18.9	165	10.9	12.0	11.7	+197
1967	1,5840	321	20.2	24.3	17.2	70	11	98	5	15.5	18.3	157	9.9	11.2	11.2	+164
1968	16,370	335	20.5	24.6	16.9	57	4	114	4	12.0	18.3	167	10.2	12.1	11.9	+168

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Public Health Officers

Details are given on page 3.

Laboratory Facilities

Investigations of a Public Health nature were undertaken by the Chester and Liverpool branches of the Public Health Laboratory Service.

Food and drugs throughout the district are still submitted for analysis to the Cheshire County Laboratory. The samples are taken by County Officers.

Ambulance Facilities

The Cheshire County Council is the ambulance authority for this area. The ambulance service is under Radio Control and is operated from County Hall, Chester. Telephone No. 21 26561.

Nursing in the Home

This service is provided by the Cheshire County Council and four District Nurse Midwives and two Midwives are employed to serve this Urban District.

Treatment Centres and Clinics

The following Clinics are provided by the Cheshire County Council :—

Place	Each Month	Time
School Clinic		
Clinic Centre, Mellock Lane, Neston	.... 3rd Tuesday	.... 10 a.m.
Young Children's Clinic		
Clinic Centre, Mellock Lane, Neston	.... 1st Tuesday	.... 9 a.m.

Place	Each Month	Time
Child Welfare		
Clinic Centre, Mellock Lane, Neston ....	.... Every Thursday	1-30 p.m.
Memorial Hall, Willaston ....	.... 1st and 3rd Fridays	2-15 p.m.
Presbyterian Church Hall, Neston ....	.... 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Wednesdays	2.0 p.m.

Ante-Natal

The Ante-Natal Clinics are provided by the Cheshire County Council in conjunction with the Central Wirral Hospital Management Committee and are held at :—

Clinic Centre, Mellock

Lane, Neston Every Monday 9-0 a.m.

(The County Health Visitors and Midwives are in attendance)

Classes for Relaxation Exercises are conducted by the County Midwife every Wednesday and Friday at 10.0 a.m.

Ear, Nose and Throat

Clatterbridge Hospital	.... Every Monday	2 p.m. Adults
	.... Every Tuesday	2 p.m. Adults
 Every Thursday	9.30 a.m. Child- to ren and 2-00 p.m. Adults

Paediatric

Clinic Centre, Neston Every Thursday	2-30 p.m.
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Ophthalmic

Clinic Centre, Neston 2nd and 4th Monday 2-00 p.m.
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Dental

Clinic Centre, Neston Every Tuesday	9.0 a.m. to 4.0 p.m.
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Hearing Clinic

Clinic Centre, Neston 2nd and 4th Tuesdays 10.00 a.m.
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Cervical Cytology Clinic

Clinic Centre, Neston Fridays By appointment
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Place	Each Month	Time
Speech Therapy		
Clinic Centre, Neston Every Friday 9.0 a.m. to 12.0 noon.
Geriatric Follow-up Clinic		
Clinic Centre, Neston	.... 1st Wednesday	.... 2.15 p.m.
Tuberculosis Dispensary		
Clatterbridge Hospital	.... Every Monday	.... 1.30 p.m.
Cleaver Hospital	.... 2nd Tuesday	.... 11.00 a.m.
	Every Thursday	.... 1-30 p.m.
Venereal Diseases		
St. James Hospital, Tollemache Road, Birkenhead.	.... Every Monday	.... 2-00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. Male and Female.
(Clinic Annexe)	Every Wednesday	10-0 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. Male and Female.
	Every Friday	... 2-0 p.m. to 6-00 p.m. Male and Female.
Chester Royal Infirmary	.... Every Monday	.... 4.30 p.m.—6.30 p.m. Females
	Every Wednesday	4.30 p.m.—6.30 p.m. Males
	Every Saturday	.... 11.0 a.m.—1 p.m. Males

Hospitals

The hospital at Clatterbridge admits patients from this area and others go to the hospitals of Birkenhead, Liverpool and Chester.

The Smallpox Hospital for treatment of cases of this disease is at Warrington.

National Assistance Act, 1948

This Act gives power to Local Sanitary Authorities to arrange for removal to hospital under a Justice's order of aged and infirm persons who are not able to look after themselves and who are not receiving proper care and attention. It was necessary to exercise the provisions of the Act to remove a person to hospital for care and attention.

Mortuaries

Mortuary facilities are available at Clatterbridge Hospital.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water

Until the 31st September, 1963, water was supplied to the area by two separate authorities; part by the Neston Urban District Council's own supply and the more outlying areas by the West Cheshire Water Board. The Water Authorities in Wirral have joined forces and the newly formed Wirral Water Board came into being on the 1st October, 1963. The new Board now controls the Lees Lane Waterworks which formerly belonged to the Neston Urban District Council.

The water supply of the area and of its several parts has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity, although from time to time bitter complaints are received about the taste, colour and odour of the water.

The water scarcity which occurred in many parts of the country in 1959 emphasises the need for constant review of the storage capacity of reservoirs. The consumption of water per head of population will increase with the rise in living standards and the reduction in the numbers of houses without baths and a hot water supply. Apart therefore from increased demand as the result of new building, it is important to recognise and to plan for consumption on a scale in excess of that formerly regarded as normal.

Mostyn House School has a private supply of water from an artesian well at the school.

None of the waters supplied has a plumbo-solvent action and the Analyst's reports have revealed no evidence of contamination.

Every house has a piped supply from the public mains. Details are given below :-

			Dwelling Houses	Population
(a)	House direct	....	5,680	16,370
(b)	Standpipes	....	—	—

Consumption

It is estimated that the water supplied represents a consumption of approximately 40 gallons per head per day.

Drainage and Sewerage

Sewer extensions are required to provide main drainage in those parts of the district where development has taken place resulting in aggregations of dwellings draining to private disposal works. The nature of the subsoil and the absence of suitable gradients render deficient the disposal of the effluents from these installations, many of which are in any event obsolete being of the so called "upward flow" type.

The increased consumption of water is frequently beyond the irrigating capacity of the subsoil even in those situations in which a permeable subsoil is present.

Areas in which Main Drainage Facilities are not available

NESTON	Liverpool Road	19 houses
LEIGHTON	The Runnel, Leighton Road	
	Chester High Road	
	Boathouse Lane	42 houses
NESS	The Flashes	7 houses
BURTON	Neston Road	40 houses
	Mudhouse Lane	33 houses
	Dunstan Lane/Woodend Lane	51 houses
	Chester High Road	16 houses
	Wood Lane	8 houses
	Haddon Lane	9 houses
	Mill Lane	5 houses
WILLASTON	Heath Lane	21 houses
	Mill Lane	4 houses
LITTLE	Woodfall Lane	3 houses
NESTON	The Colliery	4 houses

This list includes only properties where development has some sort of coherence or is capable of being served by extension of existing sewers. It does not include all the properties in the urban district which drain to private disposal plants.

Rivers and streams

There is no gross pollution of streams. The district is not subject to serious flooding although in a few places after periods of abnormally heavy and prolonged rainfall ditches and surface water drains do become surcharged.

Closet Accommodation

In rural parts of the district remote from sewers a few pail closets and chemical closets are in use. The number are diminishing year by year.

Open Spaces

The District has some 68.0 acres of public open space.

Salvage

The following table shows the weight and value of the material returned to industry during this year.

Material	Weight			Value		
	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	£.	s.	d.
Waste Paper	238	5	3	2245	12	6
Rags	11	15	0	235	0	0
Non-ferrous Metal	1	19	3	1196	5	0
	<u>252</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>£3676</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>6</u>

Refuse Disposal

The awaited report of the Local Government Research Unit of the Royal Institute of Public Administration was received during the year.

So far as the Neston Urban District is concerned, the conclusion is that "unless there is a major (refuse treatment) plant in Mid-Wirral, Neston lies in a very unfavourable 'fringe area,' in relation to the major plants. Even using a 2:1 relay the burden of collection costs which they will have to bear in order to contribute a very minor benefit to the scheme as a whole is very heavy. On the basis of 1968 costs, collection, using the 2:1 relay costs £34,655 per annum. In view of this it is suggested that Neston be permitted to take individual action.

This action cannot take the form of continued controlled tipping since there is no prospect of obtaining further sites in Neston for this purpose. In addition, the existing sites are almost finished and will certainly be filled before any major disposal scheme in the Wirral can be implemented.

The urgency of Neston's problem therefore virtually precludes any solution involving use of the main plant in the North. For example, a small transfer station acting as a "satellite" plant, although an economic alternative to the 2:1 relay after 1981 would do nothing to solve the immediate difficulties.

The only other type of treatment that Neston could reasonably finance would be a small pulveriser. It appears also that there are facilities in Neston for tipping pulverised refuse, since the treatment makes available some sites at which crude refuse is unacceptable. This being so, pulverisation is significantly cheaper for Neston than any of the other alternatives. On the basis of 1968 costs the 2:1 relay, plus incineration at the main plant, would cost Neston a total of £41,132. 0. 0. per annum. A satellite transfer station plus incineration would cost slightly more initially, but would become more favourable in the future. Pulverisation, including collection and final disposal on local sites costs only £28,400 per annum in 1968, and the cost advantage would improve towards the end of the century.

Provided, therefore, that Neston can find a reasonable reserve of tip capacity for pulverised refuse, their best course of action is to install a small pulveriser as soon as possible.

At the end of the year a scheme to implement the findings of the Research Unit was being prepared.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Number and Nature of Inspections Made	Notices Served		Results of Service of Notice		Prosecutions	
	Statutory	Informal	Complied With	Outstanding	Instituted	Pending
Dwelling houses:						
Inspected 198	12	73	75	10	—	—
Re infectious disease 23	—	—	—	—	—	—
Housing Acts on complaints 72	9	25	28	6	—	—
House to house inspection 10	1	6	7	—	—	—
Overcrowding 3	—	1	1	—	—	—
Tents, vans and sheds.... 11	—	1	1	—	—	—
Factories 35	—	8	8	—	—	—
Theatres and cinemas —	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cowsheds —	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dairies —	—	—	—	—	—	—
Milk samples —	—	—	—	—	—	—
Premises used for preparation of food 625	—	71	66	5	—	—
Fried fish shops.... 4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ice cream premises 37	—	2	2	—	—	—
Water samples —	—	—	—	—	—	—
Keeping of animals 12	—	3	3	—	—	—
Schools 8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sewers, ventilators, etc. 25	—	4	4	—	—	—
Back passages —	—	—	—	—	—	—
Drains inspected 10	3	4	7	—	—	—
,, smoke tested —	—	—	—	—	—	—
,, water tested —	—	—	—	—	—	—
Septic tanks and cesspools 73	—	6	6	—	—	—
Refuse collection and disposal 823	—	—	—	—	3	—
Offensive accumulations 4	—	2	2	—	—	—
Rats and mice destruction 212	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pools ditches and watercourses 14	2	3	4	1	—	—
Privvy middens —	—	—	—	—	—	—
Public conveniences 4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ashpits and bins 26	—	7	7	—	—	—
Control of civil buildings —	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smoke observations 8	—	2	2	—	1	—
Soil samples for pathogenesis —	—	—	—	—	—	—
Slaughterhouses.... 53	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL 2290	27	218	223	22	4	—

Factories Act, 1961

Inspections

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	5	8	1	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	37	21	4	—
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	6	6	3	—
Total	48	35	8	—

Defects found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	3	3	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	4	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	8	8	—	—	—

Factories Act, 1961

The factories in the district are subjected to regular inspection and the defects discovered have been remedied.

Shops and Offices

Inspections under Section 10 of the Shops Act, 1934, were made to secure compliance therewith.

Eradication of Bed Bugs

Number of houses found to be infested:—

(a) Council Houses	....	....	....	....	2
(b) Other Houses	....	....	....	....	None

Number of Houses Disinfested :—

(a) Council Houses	....	....	....	....	2
(b) Other Houses	....	....	....	....	None

Schools

The schools are in a satisfactory sanitary condition.

Housing

During the year the following progress has been made :—

Description	Local Authority	Private Enterprise	Total
Number of new houses erected during 1968 :—			
(a) Permanent	—	215	215
(b) Temporary	—	—	—
Number of flats provided in 1967	—	1	1
Totals	—	216	216

The progress made since the building programme commenced is shown below :—

Description	Local Authority	Private Enterprise	Total
Number of new houses erected since 1st August, 1945 :—			
(a) Permanent	698	2239	2937
(b) Temporary	75	—	75
Number of flats provided since 1st August, 1945	154	1	155
Totals	927	2240	3167

Improvement Grants

The Council has been active in attempting to secure the improvement of all dwellings in the district lacking modern amenities. During the year 11 applications for grant aid were approved.

For improvement to (a) Full Standard 6.
(b) Higher Standard 5.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

Responsibility for licensing the use of special designations is the responsibility of the County Council.

Milk Supplies — Brucella Abortus

	Total Submitted	Number Brucella Positive
Bulk Samples	7	—
Dealer Samples	—	—
Individual Cow Samples	—	—
TOTAL	7	—

There was, at the end of 1968, one dairy herd in the district from which milk was sold raw to the public.

Meat and Other Foods

The following sets out the quantity of foodstuffs found not to be fit for human consumption.

Article	Weight in lbs.	Reason for Condemnation
Poultry	112	Decomposition
Canned Meats	374	Blown Containers
Canned Fruit	271	Blown Containers
Canned Vegetables	169	Blown
Canned Fish	73	Blown
Canned Soup	12	Blown
Canned Milk	18	Blown
Preserves....	9	Crystallised & broken glass jars
Butter	27	Rancid
Cereals	84	Weevil
Cheese	72	Mould
Deep freeze foodstuffs	1096	Electricity failure
Wet fish	73	Thread worm infested
Butchers Meat	65	Decomposition
Bacon and Ham....	172	Bone Taint

There are no poultry processing establishments in the district.

Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933–1954

There are 2 licensed slaughtermen.

Slaughterhouses

There is one licensed slaughterhouse.

Premises registered under Section 6

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Type	Number
Sale of Ice-cream	38
Manufacture of Ice-cream	3
Manufacture of Sausages, etc.	8

Food Premises

Type of Business	Number
Butchers	8
Bakers and Confectioners	6
Grocers and Provision Dealers	22
Fishmongers } Greengrocers }	8
Fried Fish and Chip Shops	4
Cafes	8
Hotels and Residential Clubs	3
Works Canteens....	3
Sweetmeats	3
Delicatessen	1
Educational Establishments	11
Canteens	—
Licensed premises	14
Shrimp Dealers	6

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

TABLE A—REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	—	31	3
Retail shops	1	57	12
Wholesale shops, warehouses	—	2	—
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	—	14	10
Fuel storage depots	—	—	—
TOTALS	1	104	25

TABLE B—NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES

25

TABLE C—ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

Class of workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	174
Retail shops	199
Wholesale departments, warehouses	6
Catering establishments open to the public	118
Canteens	—
Fuel storage depots	—
Total	497
Total Males	200
Total Females	297

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	nil	nil	1	2229	nil	nil
Number inspected	—	—	1	2229	—	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole carcases condem- ned	—	—	—	15	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	—	—	—	523	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci	—	—	—	24	—	—
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcases cond'n'd	—	—	nil	nil	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticercosis						
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	—	—	nil	nil	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigera- tion	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Adulteration

This work is undertaken by the Cheshire County Council.

List of Samples taken in the Neston Urban district under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, during the year ended 31st December, 1968.

Name of Sample	Number Obtained	Number adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality
Anestan Tablets	1	—
Antussin Cough Treatment	1	—
Apple Squash	1	—
Bacon Savouree	1	—
Baxen Tablets	1	—
Beechams Powders	1	—
Bicarbonate of Soda	1	—
Brandy Butter	1	—
Bread. Milk	1	—
Champagne Perry & Orange Juice	1	—
Cheese. Cottage	1	—
Cheese Spread	1	—
Cider	1	—
Corned Beef	2	2
Dry Ginger Ale	1	—
Flour. S.R.	1	—
Foam Crystals. Orange	1	—
Gin	1	—
Ice Cream	3	—
Ice Cream Powder	1	—
Jelly. Golden Syrup	1	—
Kidney Risotto	1	—
Loganberries in Heavy Syrup	1	—
Milk	48	—
Pork Pie	1	1
Rum	1	—
Saccharin Sodium Tablets	1	—
Sausage. Cumberland	1	—
Sausage. Beef	1	—
Sausage. Pork	2	—
Soup. Cream of Chicken	1	—
Whisky	2	—
Totals	84	3

**Particulars of non-standard samples
Neston Urban District**

No.	Sample	Analysis	Remarks
1	Corned beef	Containing several discoloured areas. 60 p.p.m. tin – 200 p.p.m. iron – discolouration due to contamination with these metals	Importers agent fined £10 and £10 14s. 0d. costs
2	Corned beef	Areas of meat discoloured with iron derived from the lid of the can.	Importers Agent cautioned
3	Pork Pie	Attached to the outside was a fly	Manufacturer fined £25

Shellfish

There are no layings in the district. The delicacies known as Parkgate Shrimps, which enjoy a more than local reputation, although prepared and despatched from the neighbourhood are caught in the wide estuary of the River Dee.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks

There were no cases of food poisoning notified during the year.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

No. of Premises inspected	Non Agricultural	Agricultural
Following Notification	69	5
No. infested by (a) Rats	60	5
(b) Mice	9	—
No. of Properties inspected for reasons other than		
Notification	212	—

Pet Animals Act, 1951

There is one registered Pet Shop.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1964

Three are registered under the Act.

Caravan Sites

There is one licensed caravan site on land at Fiveways, Neston. The site is licensed for 15 residential caravans.

**PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES**

176 cases of notifiable disease other than Tuberculosis occurred during the year. Details of these are given in the following table.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) for the Year 1968

Disease	Number of Cases Notified										Cases ad- mitted to Hos- pital	Deaths
	Total	At ages—Years										
		Under 1	1—3	3—5	5—10	10—15	15—25	25—45	45—65	65 & over		
Scarlet Fever 	6	—	—	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles 	152	5	42	49	53	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough....	6	1	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia 	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	3	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—
Food Poisoning 	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Jaundice 	4	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever 	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Malaria 	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
TOTALS 	176	7	44	55	62	3	4	1	—	—	5	—

Tuberculosis

New Cases and Mortality during 1968

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35 years	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65 years	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 years and over	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	3	1	—	1	1	—	—	—

Tuberculosis

	PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY			Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary TOTAL
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	
Number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at the beginning of 1968.	24	26	50	3	3	6	56
Number of cases notified under the Regulations for the first time during 1968.	3	1	4	—	1	1	5
Number of cases removed from the Register during a preceding year which have been restored to the Register during the year.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number of cases added to the Register during the year which have been brought to notice otherwise than by Notification under the Regulations.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number of cases removed from the Register during the year.	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Number of cases remaining on the Register at 31st December, 1968.	26	27	53	3	4	7	60

WIRRAL URBAN DISTRICT

This district was constituted under the Chester Review Order, 1st April, 1933. It includes the Parishes of Heswall, Barnston, Gayton, Irby, Pensby, Thurstaston and parts of Brimstage, Thornton Hough and Arrowe.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (acres)	....	....	....	....	....	....	5,639
Registrar-General's Estimate of Resident Population (mid-1968)	....	....	....	....	....	....	25,890
Number of inhabited houses	....	....	....	....	....	....	9,060
Rateable Value	....	....	....	....	....	....	£1,021,851
Sum represented by a penny rate	....	....	....	....	....	....	£4,155

The area is mainly residential and agricultural. A certain amount of employment is provided by public services, the building trades and inshore fishing.

The natural increase of a population is the excess of births over deaths. The following table shows the condition 1959—1968 in Wirral:—

Year	Population	Natural Increase per 1,000 of Population	
1959	20,280	109 more births than deaths	+5.3
1960	21,190	111 more births than deaths	+5.2
1961	21,590	95 more births than deaths	+4.4
1962	22,070	204 more births than deaths	+9.2
1963	22,870	184 more births than deaths	+8.0
1964	24,060	190 more births than deaths	+7.8
1965	25,004	223 more births than deaths	+8.9
1966	25,370	186 more births than deaths	+7.3
1967	25,650	150 more births than deaths	+5.8
1968	25,890	146 more births than deaths	+5.6

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year 1968

These statistics are calculated on a population of 25,890 the estimate furnished by the Registrar-General.

Live Births				Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	....	....		417	231	186
Illegitimate	....	....		20	8	12
Totals	....	....	....	437	239	198

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	....					16.9
Birth Rate standardised for comparison with England and Wales	....	....	....	....	....	18.2
Birth Rate for England and Wales	....	....	....			16.9
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Births	....					4.5

Stillbirths				Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	....	....		4	3	1
Illegitimate	....	....		2	—	2
Totals	....	....	....	6	3	3

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	....	....				14.0
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births for England and Wales						14.3
Total Live and Still Births	....	....	....	....		443

Infant Deaths (Deaths under 1 year)

			Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	....	....	3	—	3
Illegitimate	....	....	2	2	—
Totals	....	....	5	2	3

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	....	....	11.0
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births			7.1
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births			100.0
Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales	....	...	18.3
Neo-natal Mortality Rate	....	....	9.1
Early neo-natal Mortality Rate	....	....	6.8
Perinatal Mortality Rate	....	....	20.0
Maternal Mortality (including abortion)			
Number of deaths	....	....	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	....	....	—

Deaths	Total	Males	Females
	291	155	136
Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population			11.2
Death Rate standardised for comparison with England and Wales	....	....	11.4
Death Rate for England and Wales	....	....	11.9

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	....	....	72
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	....	....	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)....	....	....	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	....	....	Nil

Number of Deaths during Years 1959—1968

Year	Number	Rate per 1,000 per annum.
1959	250	12.3
1960	248	11.7
1961	288	13.3
1962	240	10.8
1963	229	10.0
1964	263	10.9
1965	264	10.5
1966	227	10.9
1967	268	10.4
1968	291	11.2

Deaths at Various Ages During 1968

Age	Number of Deaths
Under 4 weeks	4
Under 1 year	1
1 year and under 5	—
5 years and under 15	1
15 years and under 25	2
25 years and under 35	4
35 years and under 45	4
45 years and under 55	21
55 years and under 65	53
65 years and under 75	63
75 years and over	138
Total	291

Table of Infantile Mortality, 1959—1968

Death rate of infants under 1 year of age (per 1,000 live births) :—

Year	Wirral	England and Wales
1959	16.7	22.0
1960	8.3	21.7
1961	13.0	21.4
1962	20.2	21.4
1963	9.6	20.9
1964	13.2	20.0
1965	14.3	19.0
1966	10.8	18.9
1967	11.9	18.3
1968	11.0	18.3

Infantile Deaths

The causes of death of children under the age of one year are shown below :—

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Congenital Malformation	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Prematurity	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Bronchopneumonia	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
TOTAL	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	5

Causes of Death

The table below was compiled from figures supplied by the Registrar-General, and the classification is given according to the cause of death.

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Total
1. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	1	2
2. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	—	1
3. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	3	1	4
4. Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	21	4	25
5. Malignant Neoplasm, breast	—	7	7
6. Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	—	2	2
7. Leukaemia	2	1	3
8. Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc.	15	16	31
9. Benign and unspecified Neoplasms....	1	—	1
10. Diabetes Mellitus	1	1	2
11. Other Endocrine etc. diseases	—	1	1
12. Anaemias	1	—	1
13. Mental disorders	1	—	1
14. Other diseases of nervous system etc.	1	2	3
15. Chronic Rheumatic heart disease	1	2	3
16. Hypertensive disease....	—	3	3
17. Ischaemic heart disease	51	24	75
18. Other forms of heart disease	3	7	10
19. Cerebrovascular disease	16	22	38
20. Other diseases of circulatory system	4	8	12
21. Influenza	—	1	1
22. Pneumonia	8	12	20
23. Bronchitis and Emphysema	12	6	18
24. Asthma	—	—	—
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	—	—	—
26. Peptic Ulcer	1	—	1
27. Intestinal obstruction and Hernia	1	—	1
28. Cirrhosis of Liver	—	1	1
29. Other diseases of digestive system	1	—	1
30. Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	—	2
31. Hyperplasia of Prostate	—	—	—
32. Other diseases, genito-urinary system	—	3	3
33. Diseases of musculo-urinary system	—	1	1
34. Congenital anomalies	—	2	2
35. Other causes of perinatal mortality....	1	1	2
36. Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	—	1	1
37. Motor Vehicle accidents	4	1	5
38. All other accidents	—	4	4
39. Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	2	1	3
TOTALS	155	136	291

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1968 AND PREVIOUS YEARS

Year	Population Estimated Mid-Year	LIVE BIRTHS				DEATHS							Natural Increase (Excess of Births over Deaths)			
		Number	Rate	Standardised Rate for Comparison with England & Wales	Rate England & Wales	Total Number Registered in District	Transferable		Under 1 year			At all ages				
							Non-Residents Registered in District	Residents Not Registered in District	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Rate England & Wales	Number	Rate		Standardised Rate for Comparison England & Wales	Rate England & Wales	
1959	20,280	359	17.7	18.0	16.5	150	43	143	6	16.7	22.0	250	12.3	12.6	11.6	+113
1960	21,190	359	16.9	16.9	17.1	181	72	139	3	8.3	21.7	248	11.7	12.5	11.5	+109
1961	21,590	383	17.7	17.7	17.4	240	84	132	5	13.0	21.4	288	13.3	14.0	12.0	+111
1962	22,070	444	20.1	20.1	18.0	211	108	137	9	20.2	21.4	240	10.8	11.4	11.9	+95
1963	22,870	413	18.0	18.0	18.2	232	129	126	4	9.6	20.9	229	10.0	9.7	12.2	+204
1964	24,060	453	18.8	18.8	18.4	258	135	140	6	13.2	20.0	263	10.9	10.5	11.3	+190
1965	25,040	487	19.4	—	18.0	291	155	128	7	14.3	19.0	264	10.5	—	11.5	+223
1966	25,370	463	18.2	19.6	17.7	301	170	146	5	10.8	18.9	277	10.9	11.0	11.7	+186
1967	25,650	418	16.2	17.6	17.2	325	189	132	5	11.9	18.3	268	10.4	10.5	11.2	+015
1968	25,890	437	16.9	18.2	16.9	309	181	163	4	11.0	18.3	291	11.2	11.4	11.9	+146

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Public Health Officers

Details are given on page 3.

Laboratory Facilities

Investigations of a Public Health nature were undertaken by the Chester and Liverpool branches of the Public Health Laboratory Service.

Food and drugs throughout the district are still submitted for analysis to the Cheshire County Laboratory. The samples are taken by County Officers.

Ambulance Facilities

The Cheshire County Council is the ambulance authority for this area. The ambulance service is under Radio Control and is operated from County Hall, Chester. Telephone No. 21 26561.

Nursing in the Home

This service is provided by the Cheshire County Council and four District Nurse Midwives are employed by them to serve this Urban District.

Treatment Centres and Clinics

The following Clinics are provided by the Cheshire County Council:-

Child Welfare

Place	Each Month	Time.
Clinic Centre, Telegraph Rd., Heswall	.... Every Monday	.... 2-00 p.m.
Methodist Church Hall, Irby	1st and 3rd Wednesdays	.... 1-45 p.m.
281 Pensby Rd., Pensby Every Tuesday 2-00 p.m.

School Clinic

Clinic Centre, Telegraph Rd., Heswall 2nd Tuesday 1-45 p.m.
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Ante-Natal

The Ante-Natal Clinics are provided by the Cheshire County Council in conjunction with the Central Wirral Hospital Management Committee and are held at :—

Clinic Centre, Telegraph Rd., Heswall Every Thursday 9-30 a.m.
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The County Health Visitors and Midwives are in attendance.

Classes for Relaxation Exercises are conducted by the County Physiotherapist every Thursday at 1.45 p.m.

Paediatric

Clinic Centre, Heswall	.... 4th Tuesday	.... 10.00 a.m.
Clinic Centre, Pensby	.... 1st and 4th Thursdays	.... 2.00 p.m.

Ophthalmic

Clinic Centre, Heswall	.... 1st and 3rd Fridays	9-00 a.m.
Clinic Centre, Pensby 3rd Thursday 1.30 p.m.

Speech Therapy

Clinic Centre, Heswall Every Wednesday	9-30 a.m.— 12 noon
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Dental

Clinic Centre, Heswall Every Wednesday	9-30 to 4-30 p.m.
Clinic Centre, Pensby Every Monday and Tuesday	9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Hearing Clinic

Clinic Centre, Heswall	.... 1st and 3rd Tuesdays	9-30 to 11-30 a.m.
Clinic Centre, Pensby	.... 1st and 3rd Fridays	.... 9-30 a.m.

Young Children's Clinic

Clinic Centre, Heswall 3rd Tuesday 2.00 p.m.

Clinic Centre, Pensby 2nd, 3rd & 4th 2.00 p.m.
Wednesdays

Geriatric Follow-up Clinics

Clinic Centre, Heswall 4th Tuesday 3-00 p.m.

Cervical Cytology Clinic

Clinic Centre, Heswall Alternate
Wednesdays 9-30 a.m.

Peripatetic Teacher of Deaf

Clinic Centre, Heswall Every
Monday and
Wednesday By appointment

Ear, Nose and Throat

Clatterbridge Hospital Every Monday 2-0 p.m. Adults
Every Tuesday 2-0 p.m. Adults
Every Thursday 9-30 a.m. Adults
and 2-0 p.m. and
Children

Tuberculosis Dispensary**Each Month.****Time.**

Clatterbridge Hospital Every Monday 1-30 p.m.

Cleaver Hospital 2nd Tuesday 11-00 a.m.
Every Thursday 1.30 p.m.

Venereal Diseases

St. James Hospital,
Tollemache Road,
Birkenhead. Every Monday 2-0 p.m. to
6-00 p.m.
Male and Female
Every Wednesday 10-0 a.m. to
12-30 p.m.
Male and Female.
Every Friday 2-0 p.m. to
6-00 p.m.
Male and Female.

Chester Royal Infirmary Every Monday 4.30 p.m.—
6.30 p.m.
Females
Every Wednesday 4.30 p.m.—6.30
p.m. Males
Every Saturday 11.0 a.m.—
1 p.m.
Males

Hospitals

The Hospitals of the District, both Voluntary and Public are under the control of the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board. Wirral is in the area of the Central Wirral Hospital Management Committee.

The hospital at Clatterbridge still admits a large number of patients from this area and the others go to the hospitals of Liverpool and Birkenhead.

The Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital, Heswall, accommodates 173 patients. It is the country branch of the Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital, and was designed originally for the treatment of orthopaedic cases. The Hospital admits patients from this area. It is equipped with a steam disinfecter.

The Cleaver Sanatorium primarily for the reception of cases of tuberculosis now admits patients with other chest complaints.

The Maternity Home at Oldfield Way, Heswall, which has accommodation for 13 maternity patients is now under the management of the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board.

The Smallpox Hospital for treatment of cases of this disease is situated at Warrington.

National Assistance Act, 1948

This Act gives power to Local Sanitary Authorities to arrange for removal to hospital under a Justice's order of aged and infirm persons who are not able to look after themselves and who are not receiving proper care and attention. Much time and patience are needed in order to help these old people and a number of such cases have been investigated, and arrangements are made for hospital treatment where necessary.

Mortuaries

There is now no mortuary in Heswall.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water

The District is supplied by the Wirral Water Board, the main source of supply being from the River Dee at Chester, the water being treated at Sutton Hall.

All permanent dwellings have a separate piped supply of water, standpipes being used only in connection with a small number of bungalows which are normally occupied only during the summer months.

The Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital has an independent supply from a 300' deep borehole but in any emergency water for use in the Hospital is readily available from the public mains.

None of the water supplied has a plumbo-solvent action and routine chemical and bacteriological examinations gave consistently satisfactory results.

During the year a complaint was received of inadequate water supply, particularly at week-ends. Investigations confirmed that intermittently certain dwellings on a new housing estate in Pensby had an unreliable supply of water. After improvements had been effected to the distribution mains the supply was satisfactory and there has been no further cause for complaint.

Three complaints of discolouration of the water were also received. This was caused by turbulence in the mains whilst connections were being made to new dwellings in the area, and after thorough flushing, there was no further cause for complaint.

Appended hereunder are details of the number of houses and of population supplied by public mains (a) direct to houses and (b) by means of standpipes.

		<i>Dwelling Houses</i>	<i>Population</i>
(a)	Houses direct	.... 9,026	25,790
(b)	Standpipes ....	.... 34	100

Consumption

The estimated daily average consumption per head was 40 gallons.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

During the post-war years the Council has spent approximately £925,000 providing adequate sewers and improving the Heswall Sewage Disposal Works. The only major improvements to be undertaken are in connection with the North Wirral Outfall Sewer. After a period of inaction serious disagreements between the constituent authorities were resolved and appropriate action is being taken to implement a scheme to dispose of sewage by means of a long outfall into the Irish Sea.

Meanwhile, to limit the risk of flooding there is a continuing embargo on additional building development in this drainage area.

Following further improvements at the Heswall Sewage Disposal Works to reduce offensive smells there have been very few complaints from nearby residents.

Localized flooding, as a result of inadequate or defective sewers, occurs in various parts of the District and the Council is dealing with these problems as expeditiously as possible having regard to the availability of technical staff.

Works are in progress to eliminate flooding of properties in Porto Hey Road and Woodlands Road, Irby, and a defective sewer under dwellings in The Old Lane, Barnston, has been re-routed.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

The Rivers Board continues to give every assistance in keeping the main streams in satisfactory condition.

In several instances it was necessary to take informal action to improve the condition of watercourses and to ensure that the flow of water was unimpeded.

Closet accommodation

The number of premises having pail closets is as follows:—

Permanent Dwellings	....	1
Temporary Structures	....	36

Open spaces

There are now some 256.23 acres of public open space in the District.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection

The retention of suitable labour for this essential service becomes increasingly difficult but in spite of problems there were few occasions when there was any dislocation in the regular weekly collection of refuse from domestic and business premises.

Competition for labour becomes keener, especially from factories, including the motor car industry, which have been recently established on Merseyside. The Council, realizing that higher earnings must be available to local government manual workers, has agreed to retain a Works Study Consultant to formulate incentive bonus schemes.

The removal of unwanted vehicles and household discards including furniture and equipment is undertaken by the Department and it is hoped that this aspect of the service will be improved as a result of incentive bonuses.

One innovation during the year which has been conspicuously successful has been a scheme for the collection and disposal of garden refuse. Plastic sacks of approximately 3 cu. ft. capacity are sold to householders at a cost of 1/6 each. Filled sacks, which are non-returnable, are collected at the same time as domestic refuse. More than 1,600 of these sacks have already been sold.

The three 50 cu. yd. Pakamatic machines continue to give excellent service but the 25 cu. yd. Fore & Aft Tipping vehicle is to be replaced by a similar machine of 35 cu. yd. capacity.

Refuse Disposal

All refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping in a small valley on Council owned land off Station Road, Thurstaston, the work of levelling, consolidating and covering being done by one man using a Track-Marshall 55 Crawler Tractor and Scraper. The site is in an exposed position on the banks of the River Dee and the comparatively strong winds, which appear to be a feature of the area, create difficulties in preventing the dispersal of waste paper and other light materials.

Gale force winds frequently blow light debris over the 8 feet high perimeter screen fence onto the adjoining agricultural land. Collecting of these materials has been hampered by current labour shortage but a satisfactory arrangement has been negotiated whereby the farmer undertakes this work receiving an annual payment of £200.

The tip has an estimated life of two years and it is imperative that alternative provision be made for the disposal of refuse. Some progress has been made by the Working Party referred to in previous reports but after eight years the problems of refuse disposal confronting local authorities in the Wirral peninsula are still unresolved.

Salvage

Salvage reclamation continues to be substantially in excess of the national average and although the net profit is only marginal the pre-separation and sale of waste paper and cardboard prolongs the life of the disposal tip and simplifies control measures.

If it were not for these advantages and the opportunity for employees to improve their basic pay by means of bonuses, it is probable that the tendency for local authorities to discontinue salvage operations would be accelerated.

The following are details of salvage collected and sold during the year:—

				<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Mixed Paper ....	....	....	....	318	1	3	2663	19	0
Cardboard ....	....	....	....	137	10	1	1460	3	6
Newspaper ....	....	....	....	107	13	2	1028	12	6
Textiles ....	....	....	....	11	16	1	220	3	9
Metals ....	....	....	....		18	0	5	18	0
				<hr/> 575	<hr/> 19	<hr/> 3	<hr/> 5378	<hr/> 16	<hr/> 9

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

Inspections made during the year ended 31st December 1968

Number and Nature of Inspections Made		Notices Served		Result of Service of Notices		Prosecutions
		Informal	Statutory	Complied With	Remaining in hand	
	No.					
Dwelling Houses:—						
Inspected on Complaints	1554	42	9	27	24	—
Re Infectious Disease	75	—	—	—	—	—
Re Infestations	71	—	—	—	—	—
Housing Acts on Complaints	69	—	—	—	—	—
House to House Inspection	61	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding....	4	—	—	—	—	—
Tents, Vans and Sheds....	190	—	—	—	—	—
Factories Acts:—						
With mechanical power	29	3	—	2	1	—
Without mechanical power	8	—	—	—	—	—
Building Sites	7	—	—	—	—	—
Dairies and Milkshops	4	—	—	—	—	—
Milk Distribution	4	—	—	—	—	—
Milk Samples	80	—	—	—	—	—
Shops Act Inspections	119	2	—	1	1	—
Premises used for Preparation of Food	74	—	—	—	—	—
Food Hygiene Regulations	149	2	—	1	1	—
Food Inspections	100	—	—	—	—	—
Ice Cream and Lolly Ice Samples	47	—	—	—	—	—
Licensed Premises	6	—	—	—	—	—
Street Vendors and Hawkers Carts	31	—	—	—	—	—
Water Supply	35	3	—	—	3	—
Water Samples	11	—	—	—	—	—
Pigs, Fowls and Other Animals	67	—	—	—	—	—
Schools	14	—	—	—	—	—
Sewers, Ventilators	211	—	—	—	—	—
Drains Inspected	1067	8	—	8	—	—
Carried forward	4087	60	9	39	30	—

Sanitary Inspection of the Area—*continued*

Inspections made during the year ended 31st December, 1968

Number and Nature of Inspections Made		Notices Served		Result of Service of Notices		Prosecutions
		Informal	Statutory	Complied With	Remaining in hand	
	No.					
Brought forward	4087	60	9	39	30	0
Excavations made	48	—	—	—	—	—
Smoke Tested	38	—	—	—	—	—
Water Tested	2	—	—	—	—	—
Flooding	144	—	—	—	—	—
Septic Tanks, Cesspools	72	4	—	—	4	—
Refuse Collection and Disposal	738	—	—	—	—	—
Dustbins	115	15	—	13	2	—
Offensive Accumulations	117	—	—	—	—	—
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act:—						
Agricultural Property	180	—	—	—	—	—
Private Dwellings	3212	—	—	—	—	—
Business Premises	276	—	—	—	—	—
Local Authority Property	75	—	—	—	—	—
Smoke Observations	54	—	—	—	—	—
Smoke Complaints Visited	20	—	—	—	—	—
Pools, Ditches	276	6	—	6	—	—
Public Conveniences	11	—	—	—	—	—
Pet Animals Act Inspections	1	—	—	—	—	—
Civic Amenities Act	8	—	—	—	—	—
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	320	14	—	4	10	—
Miscellaneous	495	—	—	—	—	—
Notices outstanding from 1967	—	77	2	60	19	—
Totals	10289	176	11	122	65	—

Factories Act, 1961

Inspections

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	8	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	43	29	3	—
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' Premises)	53	7	—	—
Total	102	44	3	—

Defects found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	—	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	3	2	—	1	—

Licensed Premises

Proprietors of these businesses continue to attend to maintenance work as expeditiously as possible having regard to the availability of suitable labour.

Plans are now being prepared for extensive alterations and improvements to the only licensed residential hotel in the District.

Shops Acts

Routine inspections were made of shop premises to ensure compliance with the requirements of these Acts.

Friday evening becomes increasingly popular for late night shopping and managements are careful to comply with their obligations, in particular those relating to the hours of closing.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Considerable time continues to be given to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Act. Many of the infringements are of a comparatively minor nature and when they are reported to the persons responsible appropriate action is usually taken forthwith.

Some of the problems are not so readily resolved when, as has happened in some businesses, the volume of trade has outgrown the capacity of the premises.

The maintenance of satisfactory space heating appears to cause difficulty. This is most apparent when premises have been closed for the week end. In an effort to rectify this situation, proprietors of businesses are being urged to fit automatic devices which will ensure that space heating appliances are functioning in adequate time before employees arrive.

During winter months cashiers in some of the smaller self-service shops find working conditions difficult because they are exposed to draughts of cold air as customers enter or leave the premises. This problem appears to merit further consideration and the use of suitable cubicles might be beneficial.

A certificate of exemption in respect of sanitary accommodation at a hairdressing establishment was extended for another year.

Three accidents were investigated and recommendations designed to reduce hazards received prompt attention.

Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	Number of Premises Registered during year	Total Number of Registered Premises at end of year	Total Number of Inspections during year
Offices	4	57	46
Retail Shops	4	147	262
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses....	—	2	1
Catering Establishments open to the public	—	15	11
Fuel Storage Depots	—	—	—
Totals	8	221	320

Analysis of Contraventions

Section	Number of Contraventions found	
4	Cleanliness	6
6	Temperature	4
7	Ventilation	3
8	Lighting	2
10	Washing Facilities	2
16	Floors, passages, stairs	4
24	First Aid General Provisions	3
50	Information for Employees	5
Total		29

Analysis of Persons Employed in Registered Premises by Workplace

Class of Workplace	Number of Males Employed	Number of Females Employed	Total Number of Persons Employed
Offices	110	121	231
Retail Shops	158	401	559
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses....	4	12	16
Catering Establishments open to the public	54	122	176
Fuel Storage Depots	—	—	—
Totals	326	656	982

Camping Sites and Moveable Dwellings

Two Merseyside Youth Organizations have camps in this district where their members may pass their week-ends in pleasant surroundings.

Permanent buildings are provided for administration, catering and sanitary services but the sleeping accommodation is rather restricted and is augmented by tents during the summer months.

Young people obviously appreciate the facilities which are provided and applications for booking are in excess of the accommodation available.

In addition, there are four sites licensed for the seasonal use of trailer caravans. Two being comparatively small, with standings for a total of 12 caravans, have licences which are subject to annual renewal. The remaining sites have accommodation for a total of 184 caravans and their licences are continuing. These latter sites have facilities for washing clothing, shower baths, wash hand basins and flush toilets.

There is no licensed site for caravans intended for permanent occupation.

Number of Tents and Caravans in the District for the Year ended 31st December, 1968

Ward	Caravans for Seasonal Occupation	Tents
Barnston	—	15
Gayton	—	—
Heswall	20	24
Irby	12	—
Pensby	—	—
Thurstaston	165	—
Totals	197	39

Smoke Abatement

This Council is a member of the National Society for Clean Air and of the West Lancashire and Cheshire Regional (Smoke Abatement) Committee.

Complaints have been received of excessive smoke emission from the boilerhouse chimney at the K.U.S. Hamperage. The trouble apparently occurs at the start of the working day when the boiler is first lit. The matter is receiving attention and consideration is being given to the installation of oil fired central heating.

Difficulties are being experienced also at the Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital where there has been considerable delays in obtaining replacements for worn parts of the mechanical stoking equipment.

Swimming Baths and Pools

This district has no public swimming bath and when the present restrictions on capital expenditure are eased discussions will be resumed with representatives of the Neston Urban District Council with a view to a joint enterprise in this connection.

A boarding school for boys and a boys' camp both have private swimming baths, the latter being equipped for the chlorination and filtration of water.

On two occasions bacteriological reports on samples of water from the swimming bath at the boys' camp were unsatisfactory.

Investigations disclosed that the chlorination and filtration plant was not functioning efficiently and after the necessary improvements had been effected subsequent samples were satisfactory.

Eradication of Bed Bugs

Number of Houses found to be infested:—

(a)	Council Houses	....	....	....	None
(b)	Other Houses	....	....	....	None

Number of Houses disinfested:—

(a)	Council Houses	....	....	....	None
(b)	Other Houses	....	....	....	None

Schools

The new Gayton Primary School came into use during the year and the educational establishments in this district now consist of the following:—

One Secondary Modern, six County Primary, two C. of E., one C. of E. (Controlled), one Infants' and three private schools.

The cramped conditions in the Heswall County Primary School create serious difficulties for staff and pupils. Proposals by the Education Authority to use part of the adjoining public open space known as the Puddydale for building an extension to the School have been rejected. The Education Authority is very conscious of the urgency to find some acceptable solution of this problem.

In the new school facilities for persons employed in or about the canteen are inadequate and requests for improvements have been abortive. It is not unreasonable to expect that these workers should have amenities commensurate with those required for persons employed in premises controlled by the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

HOUSING

New Accommodation

During the year 89 houses and flats were built by private enterprise and 39 flats by the local authority.

Thirty pre-fabricated bungalows were demolished during the year. The remaining nine will be dealt with soon and the site then redeveloped.

Since the 1st August 1945, the following progress has been made:—

Description	Local Authority	Private Enterprise	Total
Number of new houses erected since 1st August, 1945 :-			
(a) Permanent	763	3569	4332
(b) Houses and Shops	2	—	2
(c) Pre-fabricated	40	—	9*
Number of war damaged houses erected since 1st August, 1945 :-	—	4	4
Number of flats provided by conversion	6	14	20
TOTALS	811	3587	4367

*30 Pre-fabricated bungalows demolished during the year.

General Needs

The Council's Housing Waiting List is made up as follows:—

Elderly Persons	147
Childless couples	19
Couples with one child	57
Couples with two or more children	50
Total	<u>273</u>

The Council continues its energetic efforts to solve housing needs in the Urban District and this objective, except as it relates to those requiring pensioners' accommodation, is likely to be achieved very shortly. The number of elderly persons having housing needs still to be satisfied arises from the Council's enlightened attitude towards the needs of the elderly. Of the 147 persons in this category on the Waiting List 92 occupy separate homes either as tenants or owners. As a result of their changed needs these applicants now look for smaller accommodation where some measure of support is available.

At the request of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government the Council is now building six prototype houses designed in accordance with plans prepared by the Cheshire and West Lancashire group of local authorities. These dwellings, which bring a new concept to local authority houses, are exciting considerable attention.

In addition to the above, the Council's current building programme will provide 10 four bedroom houses, 94 three bedroom houses, 26 bungalows and 9 flats.

Repairs and Maintenance

The continued drift of building tradesmen into more congenial employment makes it very difficult to obtain the services of competent maintenance contractors. Costs are increasing and owners of investment properties, almost without exception, are unwilling to relet.

Rent Act 1957

There were no applications for Certificates of Disrepair.

Improvement Grants

During the year four applications were received for improvement grants

The number of dwellings brought up to a satisfactory standard with the aid of these grants now totals 152.

Welfare of Agricultural Workers

Routine visits were made to farms and agricultural holdings to ensure that sanitary accommodation provided for the workers was both adequate and satisfactory.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

Routine sampling of milk for bacteriological examination was maintained and the results were as follows:—

Description	No. of Samples	Methylene Blue Test		Phosphatase Test		Turbidity Test	
		Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed
Untreated	6	4	2	—	—	—	—
Pasteurised	28	28	—	28	—	—	—
Channel Island (Pasteurised)....	10	10	—	10	—	—	—
Homogenised	19	19	—	19	—	—	—
Sterilised	17	—	—	—	—	17	—
TOTALS	80	61	2	57	—	17	—

Details of milk failing to comply with the prescribed standards were forwarded to the authorities supervising production and invariably appropriate action was taken forthwith.

Milk Supplies—Brucella Abortus

	Total Submitted	Number Brucella Positive
Bulk Samples	—	—
Dealer Samples	12	—
Individual Cow Samples	—	—
TOTAL	12	—

There was, at the end of 1968, one dairy herd in the district from which milk was sold raw to the public.

Meat Inspection

There is no slaughterhouse in this district, the present slaughtering requirements being met by :—

- (a) Private slaughterhouses in the Urban District of Neston and the Borough of Ellesmere Port.
- (b) Public abattoirs in Liverpool and Birkenhead.

The routine inspection of meat delivery vehicles was continued. During recent years these vehicles have substantially improved and any minor irregularities in the method of handling meat was attended to forthwith by the contractor.

UNSOUND FOOD

The following foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption. On a number of occasions breakdowns in refrigerators resulted in a considerable quantity of frozen food being condemned.

Commodity Surrendered	Quantity
Banana Nut Crunch	4 Tins
Biscuits	30 lb.
Brandy Butter	13 Tins
Butter	18 lbs.
Cheese Crisps	1 Tin
Cheese Crisps	2 Packets
Cheese Spread	10 Packets
Cherries	5 Packets
Christmas Cakes	8
Cocktail Biscuits	1 Tin
Crystallized Fruits	58 Packets
Dried Fruit	1 Packet
Fruit Juices	5 Tins
Honey	35 Jars
Indian Tonic Water	2 Bottles
Ice Cream	461 Packets
Jellies	9 Packets
Margarine	7½ lbs.
Meat	298 lbs.
Meat Spreads	3 Jars
Mincemeat	2 Jars
Mint Sauce	1 Jar
Offal	66½ lbs.
Pâté de Foie	7 Jars
Peanuts	7 Tins
Peanut Kernels	76½ lbs.
Pickled Onions	13 Jars
Pie Fillings	2 Tins
Plum Puddings	50
Poultry	225¾ lbs.
Poultry Offal	22 lbs.
Rabbit	8 lbs.
Sausages	5 lbs.
Sage and Onion Stuffing	9 Packets
Shortbread	1 Tin
Sponge Puddings	2 Tins
Stem Ginger	1 Jar
Swiss Rolls	120
Tea	½ lb.
Canned Cream	7 Tins
Canned Fish	97 Tins
Canned Game	9 Tins
Canned Fruit	488 Tins
Canned Meat	277 Tins
Canned Milk	12 Tins
Canned Poultry	22 Tins
Canned Preserves	20 Tins
Canned Soups	49 Tins
Canned Vegetables	339 Tins
Assorted Frozen Foods	2294 Packets

Clean Food Campaign

Premises used for the preparation and retailing of food were inspected regularly and any necessary improvements to buildings or equipment were readily undertaken.

Talks on food hygiene were given to members of various organizations and there is no doubt that greater discrimination by customers exerts considerable influence in encouraging retailers and their employees to maintain satisfactory standards.

Ice Cream

There are seventy premises registered for the sale of ice cream.

Ice Cream Sampling

Ice creams submitted for bacteriological examination during the year gave the following results:—

Class of Mix	No. of Samples	Provisional Grade			
		1	2	3	4
Heat Treated	40 +	24	8	2	—

+6 Samples on arrival at laboratory found to be unsuitable for testing.

In addition, seven lolly ices were examined and found to be satisfactory.

Adulteration

This work is undertaken by the Cheshire County Council.

List of Samples taken in the Wirral Urban District under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, during the year ended 31st December, 1968

Name of Sample	Number Obtained	Number adulterated or not up to recognised standard of quality
Alka-Seltzer Tablets	1	—
Almonds. Ground	1	—
Anadin Tablets	1	—
Anchovy Paste	1	—
Andrews Liver Salt	1	—
Angiers Emulsion	1	—
Baking Powder	1	—
Beef Paste	1	—
Bicarbonate of Soda	1	—
Biscuits. Assorted	1	—
Brandy	1	—
Bread. Milk	1	—
Butter	1	—
Cheese. Cheshire	1	—
Coffee & Chicory Essence	1	—
Cream	1	—
Currants	1	—
Curry Powder	1	—
Dandelion & Burdock	1	—
Flour S.R.	1	—
Gelatine	1	—
Gin	1	—
Gravy Salt	1	—
Ice Cream	1	—
Iced Lemon Tea Mix	1	—
Jam. Raspberry	1	—
Jelly. Lemon Flavour	1	—
Lemon Cheese	1	—
Luncheon Meat. Pork	1	—
Milk	78	—
Milk. Evaporated	1	—
Milk. Instant Low Fat	1	—
Mustard	1	—
Olive Oil	1	—
Oxtail & Carrot Dinner	1	—
Prunes	1	—
Raspberry Crystals	1	—
Roast Lamb & Vegetables	1	—
Rum	2	—
Saccharin Tablets	1	—
Sausages. Beef	2	—
Sausages. Pork	2	—
Strained Bone & Veg. Broth	1	—
Strained Vegetables & Beef	1	—
Strained Veg. & Lamb Broth	1	—
Suet	1	—
Strawberries	1	—
Tomato Ketchup	1	—
Treacle. Black	1	—
Vegetables & Bacon	1	—
Whisky	1	—
Wine Gums	1	1
Totals	132	1

Particulars of non-standard samples**Wirral Urban District**

No.	Sample	Analysis	Remarks
1	Wine Gums	Containing dirt	Sellers cautioned

SCHEDULE OF FOOD PREMISES

The following is a summary of the food premises established within the Urban District :

Description	Number of Premises	Registration under Food & Drugs Act							
		Sale of Ice Cream	Manu- facture of Sausages	Potted, Pressed, Pickled or Preserved Food	Fish Frying	Peeling of Shrimps	Roasting of Chickens	Boiling of Lobsters	Onion Pro-cessor
Bakehouses	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barbecue	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Bread & Confectionery	17	2	—	5	—	—	—	—	—
Butchers	17	—	12	7	—	—	2	—	—
Cafes	9	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canteens	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chemists	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Clubs	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dairies	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Egg Packing Station	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fishmongers	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Fish & Chips Shops	3	2	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
Greengrocers	27	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grocers	31	23	—	2	—	—	1	—	—
Holiday Camp Canteens	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Licensed Premises	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Onion Processor	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Schools (Canteens)	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shrimp Peelers	10	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—
Sweet Shops	25	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wines & Spirits	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	208	68	12	14	3	10	4	1	1

Shellfish

Ten domestic premises are at present registered for the preparation of shrimps for sale.

These premises were inspected from time to time and conditions generally were found to be satisfactory.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks

There were no cases of food poisoning in this district during the year.

Prevention of damage by Pests Act, 1949

A whole-time rodent operative is employed by this Council and the following is a summary of work undertaken during the year:—

Type of Property	Total No. of Properties Infested by Rats and Mice	Total No. of Inspections as result of		Total No. of Properties treated by the Local Authority
		Notifi- cation	Other- wise	
Agricultural	7	179	2	7
Private Dwellings	153	2312	913	153
Business Premises	12	208	54	12
Local Authority	7	—	75	7
TOTALS	179	2699	1044	179

Treatment of domestic premises is undertaken as a rate-borne service. Contracts worth approximately £80 were negotiated in respect of agricultural property and business premises.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

There are two registered Pet Shops and these have been managed in a satisfactory manner.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

At present, there are no licensed animal boarding establishments in the district.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

252 cases of notifiable diseases other than Tuberculosis were recorded during the year.

Details of the cases are given in the following table:—

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) for the Year 1968

Disease	Number of Cases Notified										Cases ad- mitted to Hos- pital	Deaths
	Total	At ages—Years										
		Under 1	1—3	3—5	5—10	10—15	15—25	25—45	45—65	65 & over		
Scarlet Fever	9	—	3	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Measles	222	9	51	70	90	1	1	—	—	—	2	—
Whooping Cough	18	—	2	9	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	252	10	53	82	102	2	1	—	2	—	3	—

Tuberculosis
New Cases and Mortality during 1968

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55 years	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
55—65 years	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 years and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	5	—	—	—	1	1	—	—

Tuberculosis

	PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY			Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary TOTAL
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	
Number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at the beginning of 1968.	56	57	113	2	9	11	124
Number of cases notified under the Regulations for the first time during 1968.	5	—	5	—	—	—	5
Number of cases removed from the Register during a preceding year which have been restored to the Register during the year.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number of cases added to the Register during the year which have been brought to notice otherwise than by Notification under the Regulations.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number of cases removed from the Register during the year.	2	5	7	—	—	—	7
Number of cases remaining on the Register at 31st December, 1968.	59	52	111	2	9	11	122

